THE LOCAL GUIDE TO MUSIC, ART, DINING, EVENTS & MORE

FREE

Beachcomber

Feb. **8-21, 2018** • www.beachcomberdestin.com • Volume **18**, Issue **3**

Mary Gauthier: The Beachcomber Interview

Valentine's Day ♥ Mardi Gras ♥ Live Music

Pet of the Issue ♥ Charles Morgan

"BEST FOOD ON OKALOOSA ISLAND"

- P. WAHAB, LOCAL

"MUST-EAT RESTAURANT OF THE SUMMER"

- J. HICKS, YELP ELITE SQUAD

"NOM. NOM. NOM."

- J. FOWLER, FOODIE

COMING MARCH 2018...

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Reader submissions are welcome. Due to the huge volume we receive, please accept our apologies if we do not respond right away.

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Okaloosa Arts Alliance

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Opening Remarks

State of the Beachcomber

I don't care what the fake mainstream media thinks of my editorship. I only care about the opinions, thoughts and comments of you, my non-treasonous *Beachcomber* readers.

I'm relinquishing the larger part of this issue's Opening Remarks to feedback from the good folks that work hard and leave comments on our website, email me, and—in the case of Ms. Smith—send actual letters, with envelopes and stamps and postmarks.

Gosh.

Thanks again to the non-kneeling patriots that continue to pick up (and even read) *Beachcomber* every two weeks. Remember, your comments are always welcome, whether you love us or not. But why wouldn't you?

Any and all such remarks written in the English language will be considered for publication in upcoming issues, because less stuff for me to write.

Now let me get back to this pair of Big Macs.

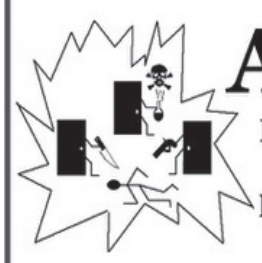
TALKING (WRITING?) POINTS
Beachcomber Music Awards X is on, and a date has been set—Tuesday, **April 10.** The location will be confirmed soon, so stay tuned.

Meantime, you can vote for this year's final nominees online through Sunday, **Feb. 18.** Visit **BeachcomberDestin.com,** and once you're there, check out all the adorable cat videos.

- Editor Manson

Artist Larry Beat shows off his favorite magazine during a not-so-recent Downtown Fort Walton Beach Farmers Market. Saturday, Feb. 10, will represent the 52nd market Mr. Beat has attended, so go see him and check out his stunning work. Bring cash.
Photo by Chris Manson.

Dinner Theater to *DIE* for!



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This Issue's Contributors

Alita Feek (Bartender of the Issue) lives in Shalimar and is a librarian by trade. These days, she's usually chasing her toddler around, writing or playing trumpet in the Emerald Coast Community Band.

Nikki Hedrick (Rock for a Cure), a resident of Seagrove Beach, is a longtime *Beachcomber* contributor and co-owner of the 850 Music and Entertainment website. She will be photographing Stephen King and his dog Molly (a/k/a The Thing of Evil) for an upcoming Pet of the Issue feature.

Clay Jones (Cartoons) syndicates his cartoons daily to publications across the country. Mr. Jones was born in Fort Hood, Texas, and was raised in Louisiana, Illinois, California and Georgia. He currently lives in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Samantha Lambert ("Music, Chocolate-Covered Strawberries and More – A Valentine's Special Roundup") is still loving being back in Florida after 35 years away. She enjoys writing for *Beachcomber,* and, as a former teacher, is using her skills to tutor local students.

Jane Morgan (Record Roundup) lives in Brooklyn, New York, but grew up in Destin. She graduated from New York University, where she studied music branding and criticism.

Marilu Morgan ("Forget Romance, Celebrate Valentine's Day Like a Child"), a nature lover who grew up in the mountains of northeast Alabama, lives in Destin with husband Chatham, daughter Carla May, and beagles Pocket and Hayduke. She blogs about beagles, babies and books at **marilumorgan.com.**

Opening Remarks CONTINUED...

YOUR THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS

I don't recall seeing the ("Horrorscopes") feature in your most informative newspaper in past issues. There is no author's name.

All signs with the exception of Libra are extremely negative. Having been a student of astrology for over 70 years, I wonder why this author foretells such gloom and doom for almost the entire human race. If this is to be the normal trend of forecasts, surely there can be a better command of the English language.

I have lived in Fort Walton Beach for five and a half years and have yet to meet anyone who "speaks astrology." If there is a group here, I would appreciate a head's up.

- Ruth Smith, Fort Walton Beach

Thank you for your feedback. The author of "Horrorscopes" wishes to remain anonymous, but we can tell you that he/she is most likely a Libra.

So needed to be said, especially in this area ("Smart? Wealthy? Patriotic? Keep It to Yourself" by Charles Morgan III, Jan. 25-Feb. 7 *Beachcomber*).

- Ann Barrett

Well written and well done ("Nowhere Man" by Nikki Hedrick, Jan. 25-Feb. 7 *Beachcomber*). I remember when this happened, and it is awesome that you are not only standing up to him, but that *Beachcomber* allowed this story to be published and in doing so may embolden others to stand up to bullies. Great job.

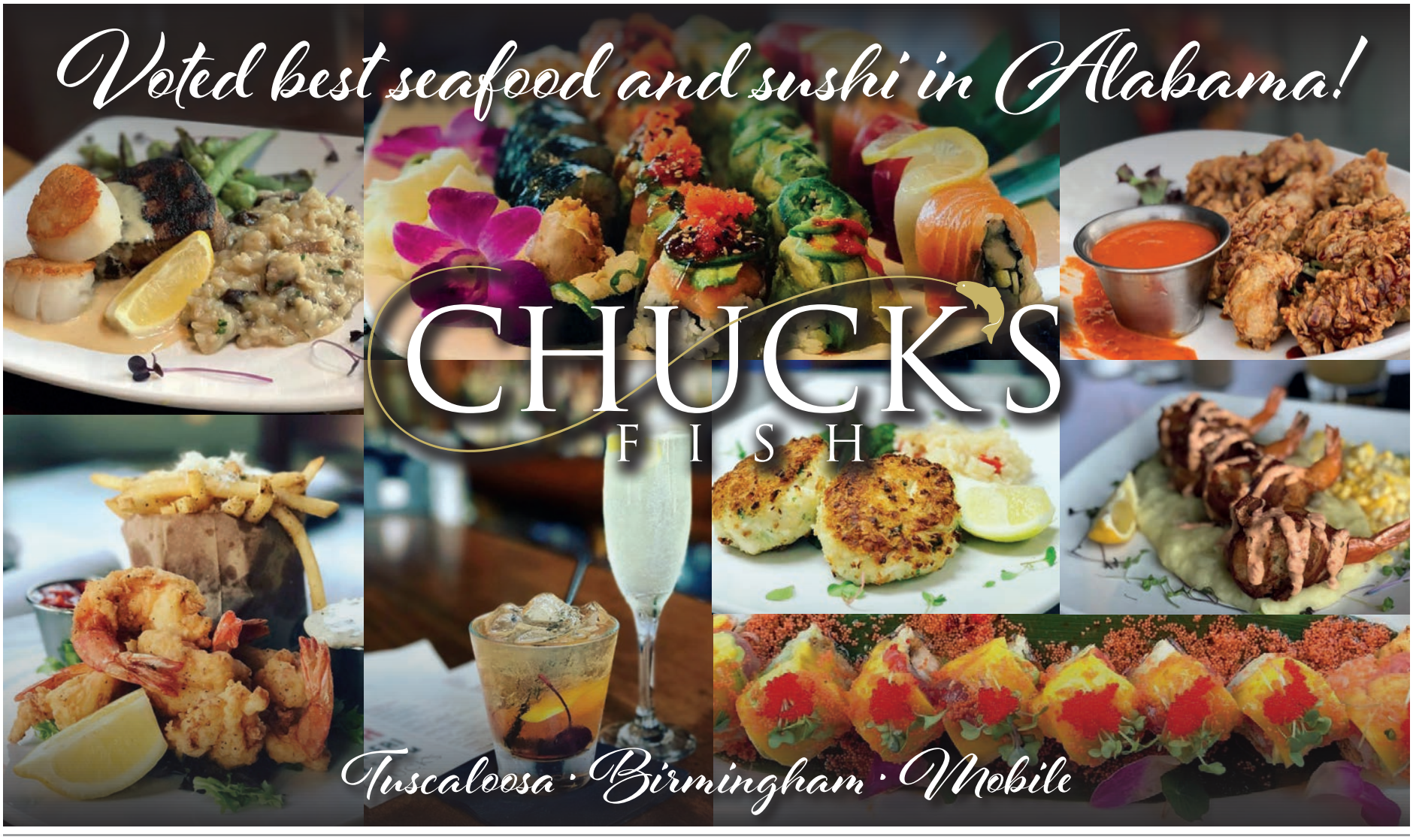
- Richard Dunlavy, Pensacola

I just read the article by Mr. Hiaasen regarding President Trump ("Let's Give Trump the TV Remote, Not the Nuclear Button" by Carl Hiaasen, Jan. 11-24 *Beachcomber*). Why on earth would you publish such and offensive article? Your publication seems to concentrate on activities around the area.

Many of your readers visiting this area love and admire this president. Does anyone at your publication screen such articles? I found the article extremely offensive, as I am sure many others do.

Wouldn't you be better off sticking to upbeat, cheery information? The Panhandle of Florida voted overwhelmingly for Trump.

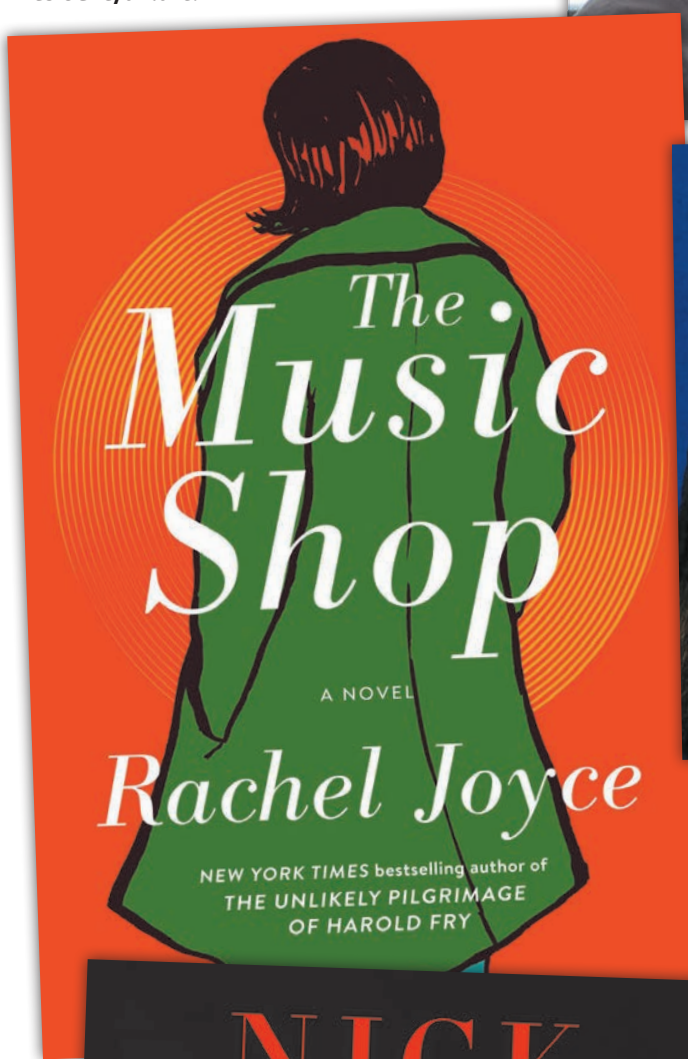
- Veronica Brannon



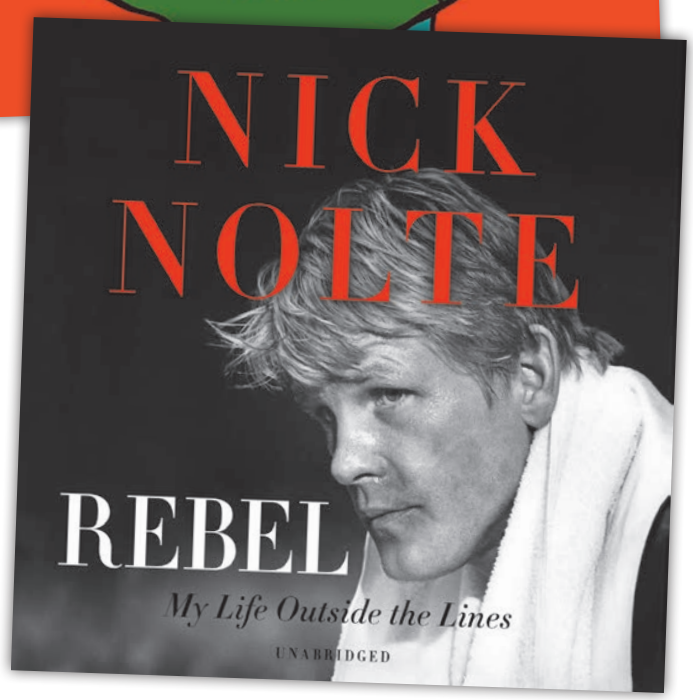
Editor's Choice

RIGHT: Martin McDonagh's THREE BILLBOARDS OUTSIDE EBBING, MISSOURI is one of the great movies of our times. The movie is full of pain and brutality (which makes those small moments of human decency even more effective) and great performances by Frances McDormand (unbelievably, her work here tops her Oscar-winning performance in 1996's FARGO), Sam Rockwell, Woody Harrelson and many others. I was squarely in the LADY BIRD camp for awards season, but this one sent me packing.

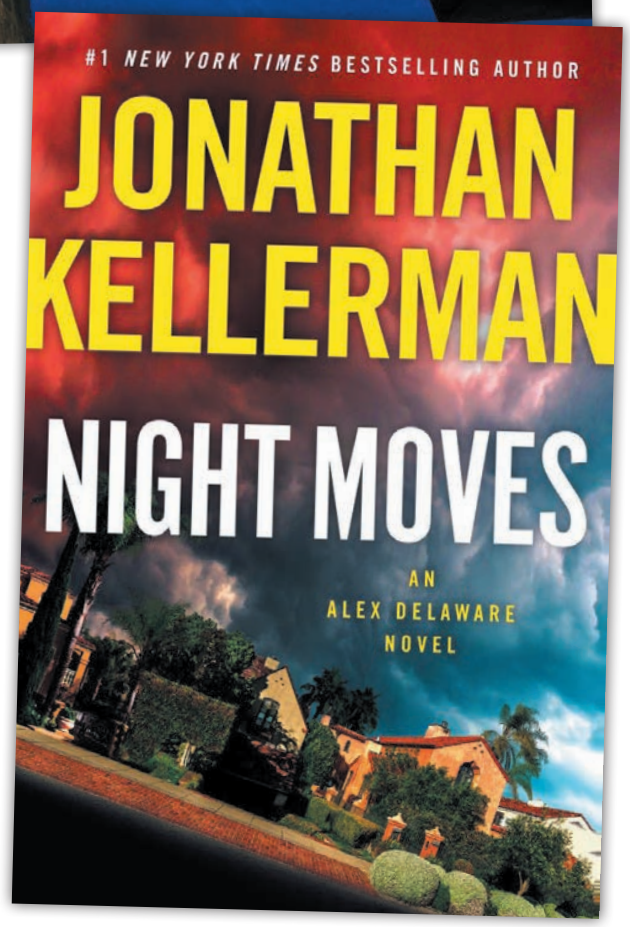
BELOW: Rachel Joyce's THE MUSIC SHOP—set for the most part in 1988 at a record store in a largely abandoned part of town—features quirky characters galore, all of whom benefit from the shop owner's keen instincts about music therapy. Part romance novel, part pro-vinyl manifesto, it's required reading for anyone whose life has been changed forever by music and/or love.



ABOVE: David Wain's A FUTILE AND STUPID GESTURE, now streaming on Netflix, is based on Josh Karp's superb biography of NATIONAL LAMPOON co-founder Doug Kenney. Hilarious and heartbreaking, with one particularly inspired breakup scene done Foto Funnies-style. Just in time for the 40th anniversary of ANIMAL HOUSE—the film Mr. Kenney co-wrote and appeared in as Stork—this is a must-watch for anyone who lived through that irreverent, cocaine-fueled era.



LEFT: The audiobook of Nick Nolte's memoir, REBEL: MY LIFE OUTSIDE THE LINES is not, I'm happy to report, narrated by the author. The excellent actor does read the prologue—with more gravel than even the faithful could be expected to endure—before turning over the remaining seven hours and change to Christian Baskous, who sounds more like the younger Mr. Nolte than the real thing. The behind-the-scenes anecdotes are great—who would have thought a piece of dead-serious filmmaking like Terrence Malick's THE THIN RED LINE could have inspired some hysterical on-set pranks by Mr. Nolte's co-stars Woody Harrelson and Sean Penn?



RIGHT: Jonathan Kellerman's NIGHT MOVES is a strong effort in the author's police psychologist Alex Delaware series. A compelling and gruesome homicide in a sorta well-to-do neighborhood gets the story rolling, and it never lets up. Out Feb. 13.

LEFT: Contributing writer Marilu Morgan and daughter Carla May enjoy the sunshine at Buck Destin Park.

BELOW: Notes from the Apocalypse columnist Charles Morgan dwarfed by men of substantial stature.

BELOW: Editor Manson (far left, $#%@ bleeding heart) with Cynthia Bergquist, Mary Ann Troiano, Ken Olson, Heidi Best-Swift and Missy Rogers during a recent performance of Act4Mystery's BEBOPPED AT THE SOCK HOP at the Okaloosa Island ELKS Lodge.

Photo by Jessika Kelsh.

ABOVE: The Tiny Diner sneaks up on a slice of Mac's Pie at 30A's Shunk Gulley Oyster Bar. More on page 33.

1,000,000!

On Thursday, January 25, shortly after noon, the one-millionth visitor to the Destin Library on Sibert Avenue in Destin walked through the door.

Joyce Huggins of Destin had no idea what she was in store for. She expected to routinely drop by her neighborhood library, pick out a book, check it out and be on her way. Instead, she was greeted with applause by library staff, given a photo op, and awarded a gift bag with champagne and heart-shaped chocolates.

In addition, patrons at the library were alerted via a public address system that a celebrity was in their midst.

The new Destin Library opened its doors on March 17, 2003, and quickly became an attraction within the community. The 13,000-square-foot architecturally unique facility was three times the size of its old home on Stahlman Avenue. Its holdings and programming have expanded considerably over the years.

The Destin Library has catered to one million visitors over the years by remaining an integral part of the community. By providing an environment that encourages patrons to explore, create and learn, all who make use of this community resource benefit each and every day.

- Will Rogers

A milestone for Joyce Huggins and the Destin Library.

Nine Rehabilitated Sea Turtles Get a Second Chance

The Gulfarium's C.A.R.E. Center released nine rehabilitated sea turtles January 25.

A huge crowd of several hundred people were in attendance at Henderson Beach State Park to witness the event. Seven of the nine sea turtles released were considered cold stunned, and the other two sea turtles ingested fishing hooks and line.

Among the group was Seadar, a sub-adult Loggerhead, who arrived at the C.A.R.E. Center last November. X-rays showed nine hooks, a lead weight, and fishing line in her system.

"One of the hooks embedded in Seadar's esophagus was a marlin hook. It was the largest hook I've ever seen in a sea turtle," said **Terra Throgmorton,** lead aquarist for Gulfarium.

Surrounded by the crowd, Gulfarium president Will Merrill said, "It is always validating to see such a great turnout. We witness the good, the bad, and the ugly when it comes to rehabilitating these sea turtles. The crowds validate our team's hard work towards getting these sea turtles healthy, and back out into the Gulf."

The Gulfarium CARE Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is proud to act as a beacon for coastal conservation through marine animal rescue and rehabilitation. Donations are tax-deductible and can be made online at **Gulfarium.com/care_center.**

- Meredith Horn

C.A.R.E. team member Caitlin Marsh shares a smile with the huge crowd as she makes her way to the water with a rehabilitated sea turtle.

FBI Agents Are More Courageous Than Trump Will Ever Acknowledge

By Carl Hiaasen, Tribune Content Agency

The war on the FBI was officially launched two months ago, when President Trump began openly trashing the agency.

Its reputation was "in tatters," he said. Its conduct was "really, really disgraceful."

Coming from a character like Trump, whose own reputation doesn't rise to the level of disgraceful, such comments might be shrugged off. But the man happens to be the president and desperate to shut down an investigation that is creeping uncomfortably close to him and his family.

Republican leaders fell into line, pushing the release of an overhyped memo composed by unnamed GOP staffers on the House Intelligence Committee. It says the FBI used tainted information to obtain a surveillance warrant on a Trump campaign aide for the Russia probe.

The FBI has strongly pushed back, asserting that the memo leaves out key classified facts that "impact (its) accuracy."

Meanwhile, the agency finds itself maligned in an unprecedented, partisan way. It's a demoralizing situation that's also bad for the country, because every insinuation by Trump and other politicians reaches every FBI agent on the street.

They're not perfect, or above scrutiny, but they don't deserve this.

The FBI's regional headquarters in South Florida is a big modern building named for two agents, Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove. Most people driving past the place probably don't know who they are, or what they did.

The men died on April 11, 1986, during a shootout with bank robbers in a neighborhood then called Suniland, in south Miami-Dade. It was the bloodiest, saddest day in FBI history.

The robbers were two armed-service veterans named William R. Matix and Michael Lee Platt. They'd been knocking over banks and armored cars—and murdering people, too. FBI stakeout teams had been hunting them for weeks.

Ben Grogan and Jerry Dove were riding together when they spotted the suspects in a stolen Monte Carlo. Other agents arrived, and the bad guys eventually were forced off the road.

That's when all hell broke loose. Platt had a Ruger Mini-14, a powerful semiautomatic rifle. The FBI agents on the scene had handguns and shotguns.

In all, 145 shots were fired at close range in about five minutes. The bank robbers were struck multiple times but continued to shoot, hitting seven of the eight agents. Grogan and Dove were killed by Platt during the firefight.

A rifle bullet mangled the left forearm of Special Agent Edmundo Mireles Jr., who fired back one-handed with a shotgun. Then he grabbed his revolver and went straight for the robbers, who were trying to escape in the dead agents' car.

Bleeding, Mireles stood beside the vehicle and emptied his gun at Matix and Platt, ending the nightmare. It was an astounding display of courage and composure.

By the time the media arrived, the scene was weirdly quiet. You could smell the gunfire, but mockingbirds were singing in the trees. The wounded agents had all been rushed away to hospitals.

I remember standing behind the crime tape as a breeze tugged at the bright yellow tarps on the ground. The tarp closest to me covered the body of Special Agent Dove, age 30.

Before he died, he fired a bullet that stopped one inch from Platt's heart, but the maniac kept shooting.

After Suniland, the FBI began arming its agents with stronger, faster-firing weapons. Ed Mireles recovered from his wounds and received the FBI's first Medal of Valor. He returned to work and stayed with the FBI, training new agents, until his retirement.

When I spoke to him last week, Mireles said that he and his wife—also a retired agent—have been closely following the political uproar. "The FBI seems to be in season. Everybody has a license to shoot," he remarked.

All 35,000 employees of the agency, including street agents, "can't help but be affected" by the ongoing controversy, Mireles said.

He was eager to read the Republican memo, but he said it would be something close to treason if FBI officials actually targeted somebody for political reasons, and intentionally misled a court to get a warrant.

"But we'll see," he said, "when everything comes out."

Mireles remains in touch with the other surviving agents who were with him at Suniland. He said they usually talk every April 11, the anniversary of the shootout.

The stark memory of that day isn't in tatters, and never will be.

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for The Miami Herald. *Readers may write to him at 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, FL, 33132.*

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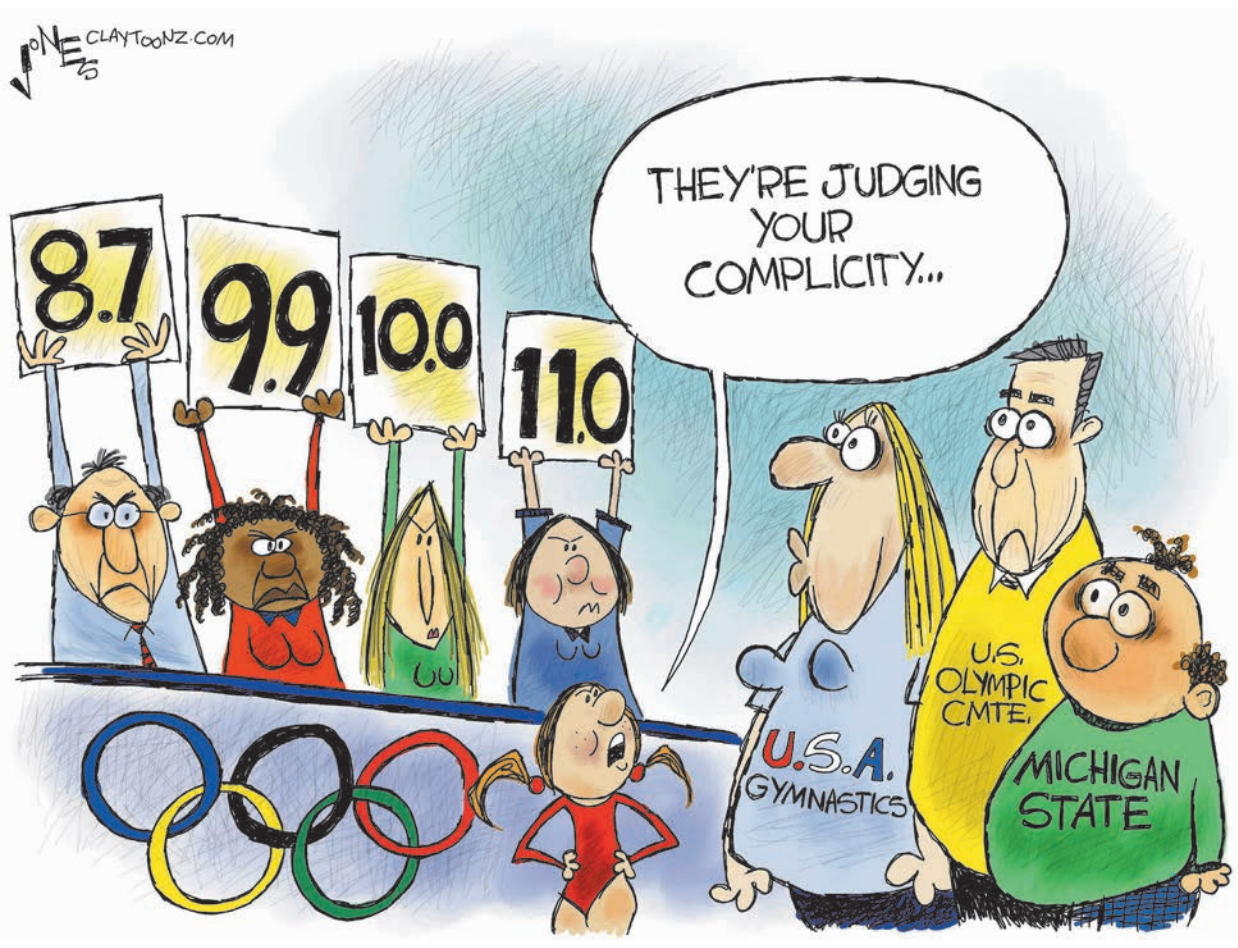

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Bumper to Bumper

By Charles Morgan III

Forest P. Gill invented bumper stickers in the 1940s. He was a silkscreen printer from Kansas City. I doubt he foresaw the variety of uses they serve today.

A recent study showed that on an automobile that was driven 20,000 miles in a year—in a city of one million people—300,000 people noticed the imprint of the car dealer who sold the vehicle. That is a lot of inexpensive exposure. Bumper stickers are meant to be more noticeable than an auto dealer's logo.

Today bumper stickers tout political candidates, vacation destinations, positions on social issues, and lots more.

My truck has stickers that represent restaurants that I'm involved in. I also have a two-year-old bumper sticker of a candidate for president who didn't win. I guess it's still on there because I wish he had won.

The stickers that I find most unusual have nothing to do with politics.

SALT LIFE

Several years ago, this seemed to be everywhere. When I asked my oldest son what "SALT LIFE" represented, I think he just took a wild guess. "I think it's a sticker company," Eddie said.

He was correct. A very popular sticker company. Apparently, it was a favorite of people who had visited the beach and liked it. Or maybe they were enamored of the boating, fishing, surfing, scuba diving or just sun tanning lifestyle.

The sticker company got so popular they now have a full line of clothing appealing to "SALT LIFE" aficionados and they even operate restaurants so that people who find "SALT LIFE" appealing can dine together.

YETI COOLERS

Yeti coolers cost too much. Way too much. They are supposed to keep ice *ice* longer. The old Coleman coolers that kept ice for a couple of days apparently were not good enough. Or maybe, at $19.95 they were too cheap. So along comes a $600 cooler that provides so much insulation that there is barely room for anything to keep cold. Whatever. It doesn't seem that a sticker is needed on the back of a truck to alert fellow drivers that you have a $600 cooler in your possession.

COSTA DEL MAR

Costa Del Mar sunglasses cost $300. They cost about $5 to make. Okay, so you really think they are better than any other glasses? Well, maybe. But probably not.

But even if you like them, do you like them enough to place their sticker on the back of your pick up truck so that everyone knows you can afford them? That is sort of a weird statement.

GUNS

There are all kinds of NRA and Second Amendment stickers out there. Some even go so far as to alert people that you carry an arsenal of guns in your vehicle. You know, so you can stand your ground. Do you know what most bandits are interested in stealing? Your guns. Is it really smart to let potential thieves know that there is a treasure trove of what they're looking for in your car?

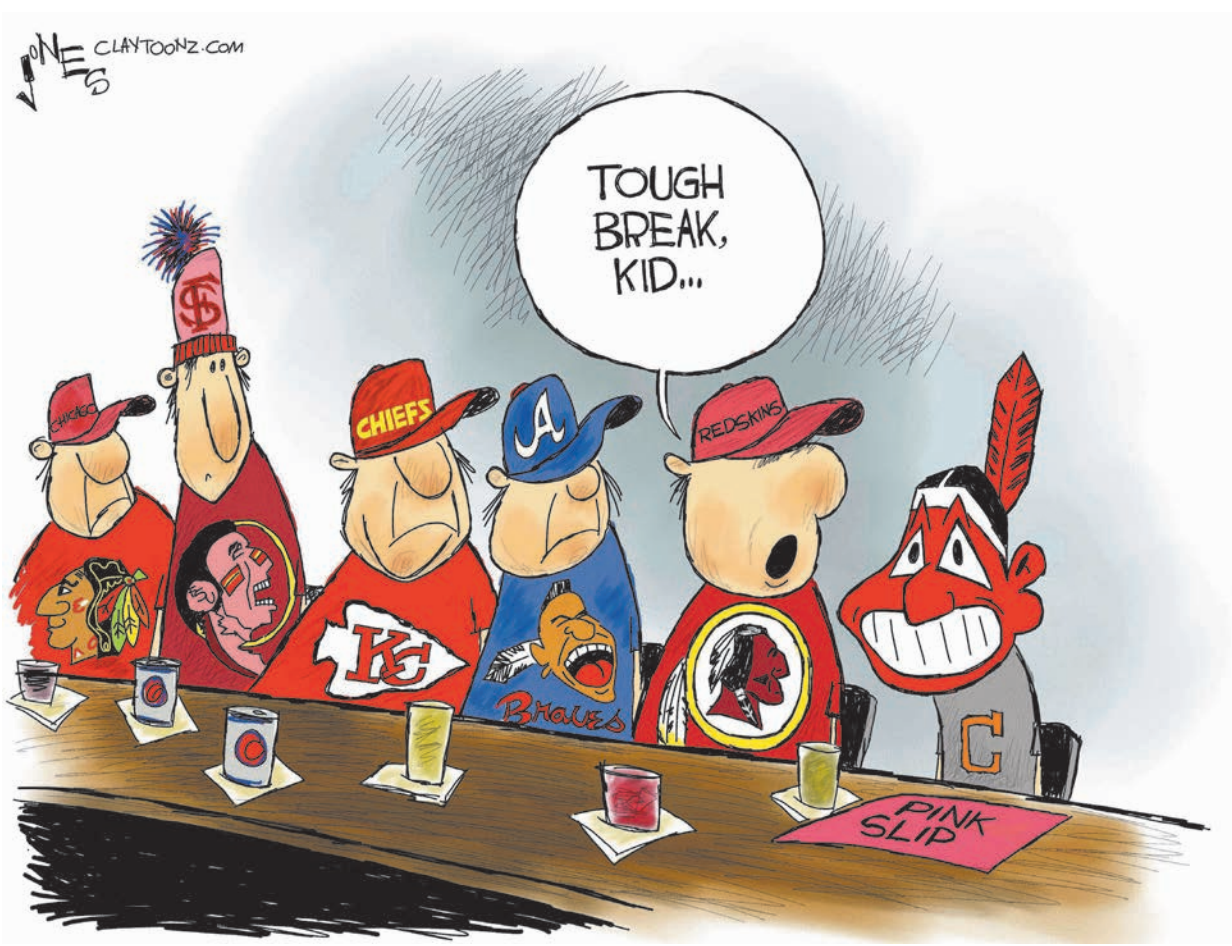
BABY ON BOARD

Okay, now what? A congratulations? A nod of the head and a sweet smile? Are we supposed to adjust our driving technique to avoid crashing into the baby? Is there really a baby in there?

FAMILY OF STICK FIGURES

What is this exactly? Stickers where every member of a family is represented by childlike drawings? Does it mean anything? Should we applaud this as some sort of accomplishment? I'm confused.

Actually, I'm not confused. I'm just out of ideas for a column that I'd prefer not to be too controversial. If you have any ideas, please let me know. Or go ahead and write one yourself. Thanks.



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Art

ART CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

AMUSE ART STUDIO, 1389 N. CR-393, Santa Rosa Beach. Drawing and acrylic classes. Call 850-660-6560 for more info.

ARTFUL THINGS, 1087 East John Sims Parkway, Niceville. Call 850-729-2600 for more info.

Tuesdays. Oil with Rosalyn O'Grady, 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. Cost is $20 per session plus supplies. Call Ros at 850-865-5343. **rosalynograd y.com.**

Wednesdays. Watercolor with Lou Kaunzinger, 10 a.m.-noon. Cost for four-week session is $80 plus supplies. Call Lou at 850-897-1456.

ARTISTS AT GULF PLACE, 40 Town Center Loop, Santa Rosa Beach. Call 850-622-0400 or visit **www.artistsatgulfplace.com** for more info.

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY (ADSO) Classes at the Art Center Gallery, Fort Walton Beach. More info at **artsdesignsociety.org.**

Mondays and Wednesdays. Clay and Pottery Open Studio, 9 a.m.-noon both days and 6:30-9 p.m. Mondays. Beginners welcome. Cost for morning classes with **Pat Basque and Sherry Cooler** is $15 ($12 for ADSO members). Cost for Monday evening class with **Marcy Eady** is $15 ($12 for ADSO members). Materials and firing included.

Tuesdays. Art for Children Ages 6-12, 4-5:30 p.m. **Marcy Eady** teaches about the masters and their styles using principles of basic drawing, painting and sculpture. Media vary each week. Cost per month is $70 ($60 for ADSO members). All supplies included.

Tuesdays. Oil Painting with Dale Gauvin, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Learn the Chiaroscuro technique favored by the old masters. Cost is $90 ($80 for ADSO members).

Tuesdays. Open Studio, 7-9:30 p.m. Bring your own supplies (except clay—no clay, please) and work with other Beachcomberland artists. Cost is $12 ($10 for ADSO members). Call Marcy at 850-585-4967 by 5:30 p.m. to ensure access.

Thursdays. Watercolor with Pat Farwell, 9:30 a.m.-noon. For beginners and advanced artists. Bring your own supplies. Cost is $90 ($80 for ADSO members). Supply list available at the ADSO website.

Fridays. Open Studio, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Same as Tuesdays, but enter through the ADSO office, please.

March 1 and 2. Abstract Seascape Acrylic Workshop with Farideh Peacock, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Focus on balance and contrast. Cost is $130 ($110 for ADSO members). Students provide their own materials—supply list at the ADSO office. More at **FaridehPeacock.com.**

March 9-11. Bigger, Faster, Fresher, Looser Abstracts Workshop with David M. Kessler, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. A workshop for artists working in watercolor, acrylic, pastel or oil to help understand the structure of abstract painting and how to loosen up and paint more freely. Cost is $280 ($250 for ADSO members). Students provide their own materials—supply list at the ADSO office. Deadline to register is Tuesday, **Feb. 13.** More at **DavidKessler.com.**

CHROMA STUDIO & GALLERY, 3925 West County Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach. Call 1-844-5-CHROMA or visit **www.CHROMA30A.com** for more info.

Blue Mountain Bonita Class, 6 p.m. Cost is $75.

FULL CIRCLE GALLERY, 29 B Eglin Parkway, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-362-8041 or visit **fullcirclefwb.com** for more info.

HERITAGE MUSEUM OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA, 115 Westview Avenue, Valparaiso. Call 850-678-2615 or visit **Heritage-Museum.org** to sign up or for more info.

HH ARTS, 100 Beal Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-218-2155 to register for classes.

THE SHARD SHOP in the Shops of Grayton, Grayton Beach. ShardWorx is a new way of making art with glass and resin on a painted surface. Open Mon.-Sat., 9:15 a.m.-4 p.m. Classes daily. Adult classes, 9:30 a.m. All ages classes at 11 a.m., 12:45 and 2:15 p.m. Classes last about an hour, and all materials are provided. Artwork is ready the day after class. All skill levels welcome. Adults start at $85, kids at $40. Sign up online at **ShardShop.com** or call 850-231-0544.

ART EVENTS

THROUGH FEB. 19. ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY'S (ADSO) "SOMETHING HUMAN" SHOW AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BEACH
Reception **Feb. 9,** 6-8 p.m. The show features works in all media depicting the human figure. Call 850-244-1271 or visit **ArtsDesignSociety.org** for more info.

Art

THROUGH FEB. 25. WINTER ROTATION AT THE FOSTER GALLERY, GRAND BOULEVARD AT SANDESTIN
The Cultural Arts Association of Walton County's artist collective features **Melody Bogle, Jacques Camp, Donnelle Clark, Connie Dismukes, Linda Kernick, Shelley Minchew, Rosalyn O'Grady, Maxine Orange, Marian Pacsuta, Kyle Paxton, Lesha Porche, Mary Redmann, Kathleen Schumacher, Jenna Varney, Krista Vind, Robin Wiesneth** and **Chandler Williams.** Selected by jury, all artists are members of the Cultural Arts Alliance, and each will exhibit one to two pieces of work in this special exhibition. More at **CulturalArtsAlliance.com.**

THROUGH FEB. 28. ADSO WINDOW GALLERY DISPLAY AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BEACH

This month, the spotlight is on the work of **Marcy Eady's** students. Ms. Eady is an award-winning clay artist and instructor, and the display includes examples from her Monday evening adult clay classes and children's art classes.

THROUGH FEB. 28. CHARLOTTE PARRISH EXHIBIT AT DESTIN LIBRARY
Featuring a variety of work, including paintings and small table sculptures. Ms. Parrish studied at the London School of Fine Art, among others. For more info, email **parrishstudiogallery@gmail.com.**

THROUGH FEB. 28. SUZANNE LELOUP-WEST EXHIBIT AT WALTON COUNTY COASTAL BRANCH LIBRARY, SANTA ROSA BEACH

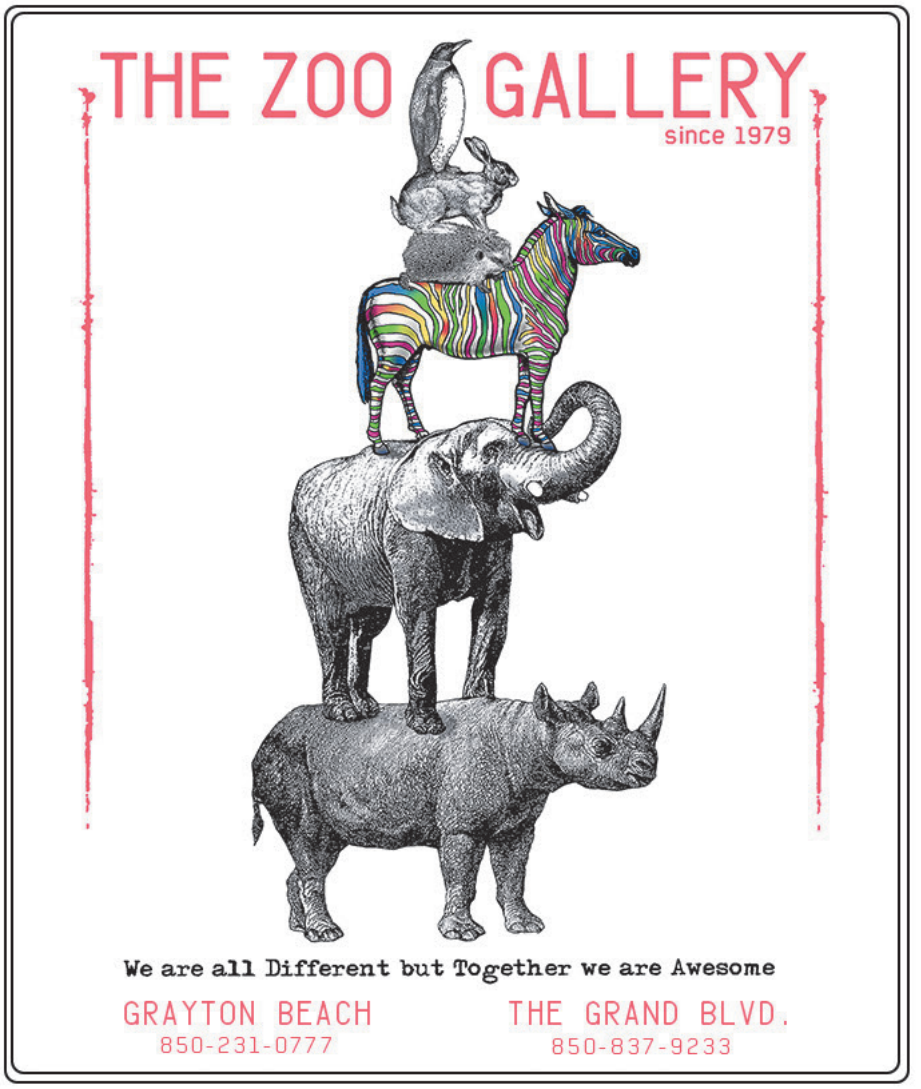
FEB. 9-11. FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL BEAUX ARTS EXHIBIT AT THE MERIDIAN AT WESTWOOD, FORT WALTON BEACH
Presented by the Arts and Design Society. The exhibit runs 5-8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, and 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Reception and silent art auction Sunday from 2 to 4, with awards at 3:30. Call 850-582-1329 for more info.

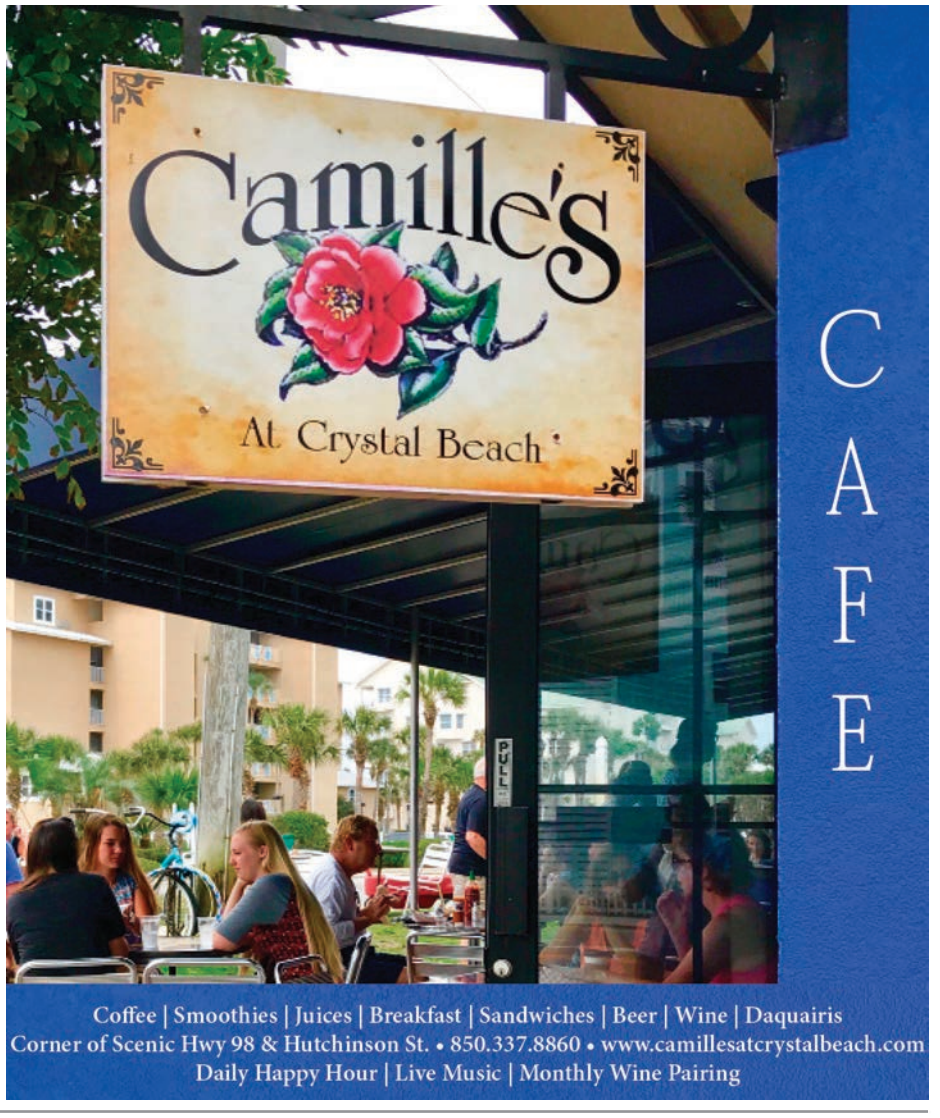
FEB. 10. ARTIST GALLERY DAY AT HH ARTS, FORT WALTON BEACH
Doors open at 10 a.m. Various artists demonstrate how they do it. Refreshments and one-of-a-kind items available. Call 850-218-2155 for more info.

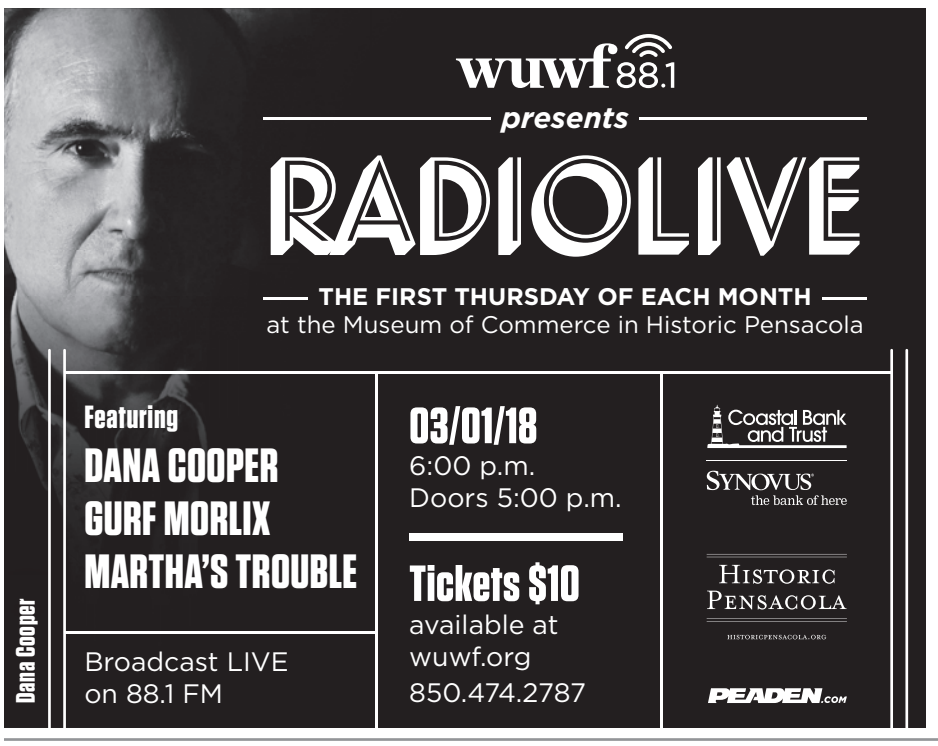
FEB. 10. SEASCAPE ART SHOW AND SALE AT SEASCAPE RESORT CONFERENCE CENTER, MIRAMAR BEACH
From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., purchase local art, along with prints, cards, gift items and jewelry. Meet the artists and enjoy light refreshments. Call 850-240-3220 for more info.

FEB. 16. VALENTINE COUPLES PAINT NIGHT AT HH ARTS, FORT WALTON BEACH
Join **Pat Roberts** as you and your partner paint Florida palms. Cost is $55 per couple, all supplies included. And bring your "sip" of choice. Reservations and payment required by **Feb. 13.** Call Helen at 850-218-2155 or email **hch45@cox.net.**

OPENS FEB. 20. VAN PORTER STUDENT ART SHOW AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BACH
Outstanding art from students in grades 8 through 12. Reception Thursday, **Feb. 22,** 5-7 p.m. More info at **ArtsDesignSociety.org.**







FEB. 28. ADSO LUNCHEON AT THE ART CENTER GALLERY, FORT WALTON BEACH

David Boone discusses painters of the Impressionist period. Cost for the luncheon, which begins at 11:30 a.m., is $12. Make your reservations by **Feb. 26** by calling 850-244-1271 or emailing **adsorsvp@gmail.com.**

ART GALLERIES

ADARO ART features works from 2015 South Walton Artist of the Year Juan Francisco Adaro, as well as other well-known local and international artists. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Now located in the Shops at the Hub, 7000 E. Scenic Highway 30A, Suite 21, Watersound, 561-985-5767. Email **adaro.art@gmail.com** or visit **adaroart.com** for more info.

AMUSE ART STUDIO Acrylic paintings, watercolors and gifts. Owner and artist **Linda Barton** has a Master's Degree in Art Education. Open 2-6 p.m. daily except Wednesdays. 1389 N. CR-393, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-660-6560 or 250-901-0718. Check out more at **amuseartstudio.com.**

ARTFUL THINGS Original oils, watercolors and acrylics, as well as prints and note cards by local artists. Art classes, supplies and custom framing available. 1087 John Sims Pkwy., Niceville, 850-729-2600. **www.artfulthings.net.**

ARTISTS AT GULF PLACE Eight great artists, one great location. Art, photography, pottery, jewelry, tie dye, glass art, woodworking, classes, workshops and more. Open seven days a week. 40 Town Center Loop, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-0400. **www.artistsatgulfplace.com**.

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY Features art shows by local and regional artists. Open afternoons Tuesday through Saturday. Shows change monthly. Art classes and workshops in various media. 17 First Street SE, Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-1271. **www.artsdesignsociety.org**.

CHROMA STUDIO & GALLERY features the art of local artist **Kathleen Broaderick.** Browse Kathleen's original oil paintings in the gallery, or take a class in Kathleen's studio. Kathleen offers oil painting workshops featuring her energetic, loose and colorful style, as well as acrylic paint-and-sip-type classes for artists and non-artists alike. The CHROMA Studio & Gallery is a place where guests will feel comfortable expressing themselves and finding the joy in art. CHROMA is located at 3925 West County Highway 30A in Santa Rosa Beach (just west of Goatfeathers restaurant). Visit **www.CHROMA30a.com** or call 1-844-5-CHROMA for more information.

FULL CIRCLE GALLERY AND STUDIO is a contemporary and inspirational art space. We feature the works of regional artists in our gallery and offer an array of art classes with award-winning artists. We also have Paint Your Own Pottery. Come get creative with us! Located at 29B Eglin Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-362-8041. **www.fullcirclefwb.com.**

G & CO. GALLERY (formerly Geana's Art Gallery) Located in City Market, Destin. An exciting art gallery and full service frame and mirror shop offering a large selection of local, regional and international artists ranging from local photography to original fine art. Quality and value is second to none. We ship worldwide. 850-650-0779. **www.GAndCoGallery.com.**

HH ARTS offers works for sale from local artists in all mediums. There are many award-winning artists displayed in oil, acrylic, encaustic, collage, clay, handmade candles, and handmade jewelry designs in glass, leather and Victorian style. Studio space available for artists at reasonable rates. An outdoor area is also available for plein air painting or classes, with lighting and overhead covering. There will be classes offered for children and adults. Located at 100 Beal Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach (three blocks off 98, across from Troy University). Open Tue.-Sat., 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. For more info, call 850-218-2155 and "like" HH Arts on Facebook.

MARY HONG GALLERY Located in Grayton Beach (Shops of Grayton), Destin (next to Ulta and Michael's), Nashville (4th and Union next to DoubleTree Hotel) and on Magazine Street in New Orleans. Mary Hong, the 2014 South Walton Artist of the Year, has been featured in over 10 publications and has appeared on *Emeril's Florida* TV show and HGTV's *House Hunters.* Mary's take on glass art incorporates the use of repurposed glass on painted canvas. She and her team offer classes at The Shard Shop, located adjacent to or inside her gallery locations. Classes are offered four to five times a day, and there is an extensive retail section full of thousands of pounds of glorious glass and art kits to take your ShardWorx on the go. We host parties and team events, too. Grayton Beach gallery open seven days a week, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. 850-231-1416. **MaryHongStudio.com.** The Shard Shop open seven days a week, 9:15 a.m.-4 p.m. 850-231-0544. **ShardShop.com/Grayton.** Destin gallery and Shard Shop open seven days a week, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. 850-842-4440. **ShardShop.com/Destin.**

MATTIE KELLY ART GALLERIES AT NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE The Arts Center Galleries at Northwest Florida State College in Niceville encompass two galleries showcasing 20 different international, national and regional exhibitions yearly, which are unique to this region. Viewing hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Visit **www.mattiekellyartscenter.org** or call 850-729-6044.

THE ZOO GALLERY Created in 1979. Locally owned small business. We focus on quality, handcrafted work by hardworking artists. Our galleries showcase an eclectic range of curated artwork from all over the country, a jewelry collection like no other, plus unique clothing lines for women with soul. We keep a sense of wonder. We stand out from the herd. Located in Grayton Beach across from the Red Bar and in Grand Boulevard at Sandestin. **#standoutfromtheherd thezoogallery.com**

Just in time for Valentine's, Juan Francisco Adaro is showcasing some "red hot and sexy art" at his gallery, located at The Hub 30A shops in Santa Rosa Beach. You may even have time to commission your very own romantic portrait. Visit AdaroArt.com for details.

CALL TO ARTISTS

Arts and Design Society's "That Old Refrain" Show featuring artwork in any medium inspired by a line from a song or poem. Cash awards. Turn in work Monday, **March 5,** 9 a.m.-noon. Entry fee is $35 for two pieces ($25 for ADSO members). Entry forms at **ArtsDesignSociety.org.**

#BEACHCOMBERDESTIN

SHARE YOUR PHOTOS AND GET FEATURED HERE!

instagram.com/beachcomberdestin

@caafostergallery
Just a friendly reminder that the 30th annual ArtsQuest will be here before you know it.

@yeoldebrothersbrewery
Lots of great things are brewing in Navarre. Stay tuned.

@scottylisenbe
A striking image from one of Beachcomberland's finest photographers.

@finn_and_draper
Happy belated birthday to this little guy. Pet of the Issue is calling…after Stephen King and Molly, of course.

Mary Gauthier Collaborates with Veterans on New LP

Interviewed by Chris Manson

Mary Gauthier is well-known to many of the locals, particularly those that attend the 30A Songwriters Festival every year. She's been a featured performer for most of the festival's nine years. Her latest (excellent) album, Rifles & Rosary Beads*—released January 26—is a collaboration between Ms. Gauthier and military veterans. She spoke to us from Nashville.*

Discover more at **MaryGauthier.com.**

So, what do you write first? The music or the words?
They come together.

Just kidding about that first question.
That's what people always ask, along with "Who were your influences?"

Congratulations on the new album. How did the idea of collaborating with veterans come up?
I've been working with Songwriters with Soldiers for about four years. The organization pairs veterans with songwriters. Darden Smith approached me.

Tell us more about the organization. How does it work?
You can learn more at their website, **SongwritersWithSoldiers.org.** It's five years old this year, and over 400 songs have been written with veterans from Vietnam forward. It's a nonprofit that does incredibly beautiful work.

Are any of your other songwriter friends involved?
A lot of them—Darryl Scott, Beth Nielsen Chapman. There's a list at the website. Some of the very best songwriters in Nashville do this.

Had you done much collaborating prior to *Rifles & Rosary Beads?*
Yes, I'm a big fan of co-writing. I do it a lot.

"Brothers" certainly feels like the right song for the right time.
That was right out of their mouths (of the song's co-writers Meghan Counihan and Britney Pfad)—they lived it.

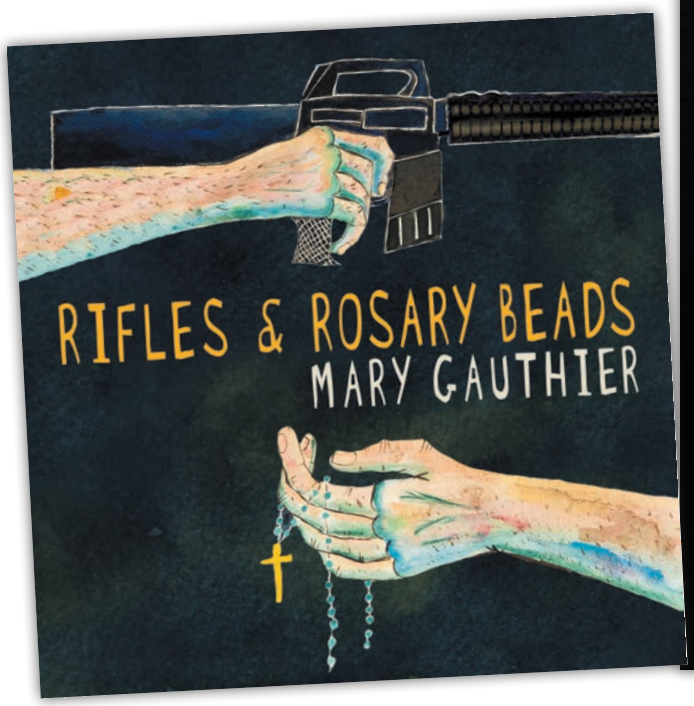


Photo by Laura E. Partain.

Mary Gauthier on the road with Gretchen Peters.

How involved are you in the packaging? The cover art for *Rifles & Rosary Beads* is extraordinary. It seems to say it all, at least until you start listening to the songs.
That was Howard Rains. He's a songwriter as well. He did a beautiful job. He did it for a piece in *No Depression* magazine, and I bought the rights. He's a genius.

I'm sorry I missed you at the 30A Fest this year, though it was nice to run into you at the Gretchen Peters-Rita Wilson-Chris Stills show in Rosemary Beach. Any highlights for you this go-round?
Oh, it's always so much fun. Rita's a friend of mine, and she's been really involved in the Nashville community. She's very committed to improving her songwriting. I enjoyed being with all the songwriters. I had a show the next night at the Town Hall, and I love it. The festival has gotten bigger, but it's still intimate.

Kathy Mattea did an extraordinary rendition of your song "Mercy Now" at the festival.
She does it beautifully.

Bobby Bare recently recorded a couple of your songs, too.
He recorded "Mercy Now" as well and "I Drink." The video for "I Drink" is stunning—you gotta look that up. It's jaw-droppingly great. It's the opposite of what you hear on country radio.

You offered hand-written lyrics for sale on your website recently. This seems like a particularly good way for artists and songwriters to generate revenue these days, aside from endless touring.

Mary Gauthier performing with Gretchen Peters, Barry Walsh, Will Kimbrough and Kim Richey at the 2018 30A Songwriters Festival.

Photo by Jaimee Harris.

Photo by Tyler McQueen.

Record sales seem to be a thing of the past.
Tech stole the business right from under us. There's a lot of music out there, but they've made it impossible for many songwriters. There is some legislation that's helping songwriters, but I haven't had time to look into it.

A few years ago, you mentioned you were working on a book. What's the current status?
I just signed a big book deal with St. Martin's Press. The title is *Saved by a Song.* I have a lot of work to do in my free time *(laughs).* I'm sure it's gonna come together.

When I first met you, you had mentioned a project involving some unrecorded songs by the great songwriter Harlan Howard.
That's on hiatus. Too complicated, copyrights. It would take a team of lawyers to make it happen. Too much legal bullshit, can't deal.

I enjoyed seeing you on Sarah Silverman's Hulu show recently. Any other television appearances on the horizon? I would love to see you as the musical guest on *Saturday Night Live.*
I'm not sure I'm the right person for that. I'm a folk singer. That's not really my goal, being on TV. But I liked being on Sarah's show—it was like being at her house.

I have a feeling you're moving on up in the world. Used to be I could email you and get a quick, direct reply. Now you have a go-between.
That's very important. I have so much coming at me right now.

Do you still do all your social media—tweets, etc.?
I have some help, but you can tell it's me when it's political *(laughs).*

What's next? Heavy touring in support of the album, I'm sure, but what else?
I'm flying to London today. Europe, east coast, west coast, just confirmed 20 dates in the Netherlands. The little folk singer that could, going all over the world. It's not huge but wide.

I have to ask—what are some of your favorite hangouts here in Northwest Florida?
It's always such a whirlwind. Gosh, you know, that's a hard question. The guys at the record store (Seaside's Central Square Records) are good to me. I love to spend some money there. The wonderful woman that makes the jewelry (Allison Beach Crafts). I try to support the people that support the songwriters. It's been an incredible seven years doing 30A. It's a giant love fest.

Have you heard any good music lately? Is there anything you're looking forward to in 2018?
It would appear everyone on earth has a new record coming out this year. All my friends. I think it's gonna be a huge year for music. I'm excited about the possibilities for artists. We have a lot to say.

I've been enjoying Rod Picott's new record (*Out Past the Wires*), he used the same producer I did for *Rifles & Rosary Beads,* Neilson Hubbard.

Thanks again for taking time to chat. We hope to see you around these parts again very soon.
Me too. I gotta get back and do a show there. Thank you.

SOUTH WALTON BEACHES™ WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

APRIL 26–29, 2018

Town Center of Grand Boulevard at Sandestin®
Miramar Beach, FL

Thursday Winemakers & Shakers • 5pm–7pm
Friday VIP Wine Tasting Kick-Off • 4pm–6pm
Friday Craft Beer & Spirits Jam • 6pm–9pm
Saturday and Sunday Grand Tastings • 1pm–5pm

A dazzling roster of dozens of celebrity winemakers, distillers, chefs, brew masters and entertainers converge in South Walton, Florida to wine, dine, educate and entertain guests as part of the four-day celebration of wine during the South Walton Beaches Wine & Food Festival held April 26-29, 2018 throughout the Town Center of Grand Boulevard.

Attendees enjoy such attractions as Spirits Row, Rosé All Day Garden, Savor South Walton Culinary Village, Nosh Pavilions, Tasting Seminars, Craft Beer & Spirits Jam, live entertainment and more than 800 wines poured by knowledgeable wine industry insiders.

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Beachcomber Profiles* — BobbyD

HOMETOWN: Born in Baton Rouge, raised in Gonzales, Louisiana.

PROFESSION: Musician—I've been a professional entertainer for over 35 years.

AGE: I'll be 60 this month.

HOBBIES: Music!

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Retired. Being a fulltime musician is something I always dreamed about. Moving here and being welcomed is just amazing. I'm overwhelmed by the support we've gotten since we moved to Fort Walton Beach.

PROFILE: I'm doing what I've always dreamed of doing. I played weekend warrior until about 2003, then started playing casinos when we moved to Gulfport, Mississippi. I started playing here in 2005, sitting in with bands.

I performed many years with a full band before becoming a solo artist in 2004. I play guitar and keyboard, along with professional backing tracks for a "full band" sound. My experience in performing in clubs, casinos, lounges and restaurants—and at private events like weddings—allows me to provide a variety of music for both indoor and outdoor venues for all ages. I can provide easy listening for intimate settings and dance music for larger events.

I perform a variety of music—oldies, '50s, '60s, '70s, R&B, pop and top 40, classic and new country, island music, Elvis, Sinatra… I'm always adding the latest hits to my extensive playlist.

I stopped playing for a while, then my wife Judy said she'd manage me, do the booking. She's done a tremendous job. I'd be nothing without her.

QUOTE: "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there." – Roy Rogers

FAVORITE FREE PUBLICATION: *Beachcomber!*

BobbyD performs at HarborWalk Village's Winter Guest Concert Series Sunday, **Feb. 18,** *at 2 p.m. Additional dates are in this issue's Live Music section. Discover more at* **BobbyDBand.com.**

** Inspired by the late, great* Creem *magazine.*

UPCOMING MUSIC RELEASES

FEB. 9

Dave Barnes, *Who Knew It Would Be So Hard to Be Myself?*
Ruby Boots, *Don't Talk About It.* Also on vinyl.
Beth Nielsen Chapman, *Hearts of Glass*
Dashboard Confessional, *Crooked Shadows.* Also on vinyl.
Brian Fallon, *Sleepwalkers*
Franz Ferdinand, *Always Ascending.* Also on vinyl.
Ezra Furman, *Transangelic Exodus.* Also on vinyl.
Chris Hillman, *The Asylum Years*
Jethro Tull, *Heavy Horses: New Shoes Edition.* New Steven Wilson stereo mix of the 1978 album, plus two live discs and DVDs featuring DD/DTS 5.1 surround, etc. etc.
Joan as Police Woman, *Damned Devotion.* Also on vinyl.
MGMT, *Little Dark Age.* Also on vinyl.
Nana Mouskouri, *Forever Young.* Also on vinyl.
Robert Plant and the Sensational Space Shifters, *Live at David Lynch's Festival of Disruption.* DVD.
Sister Hazel, *Water EP*
Son Lux, *Brighter Wounds.* Also on vinyl.
Toto, *Greatest Hits: 40 Trips Around the Sun.* Seventeen-song retrospective with three new tunes. Also on vinyl.
Steve Tyrell, *A Song for You*
Doc Watson, *Doc Watson Live at Club 47.* Previously unreleased 1963 performance. Also on vinyl.
The Wombats, *Beautiful People Will Ruin Your Life*
Black Panther: The Album. With Kendrick Lamar & SZA, plus others.

FEB. 16

Laurie Anderson / Kronos Quartet, *Landfall.* Also on vinyl.
Louis Armstrong, *Pops Is Tops: The Verve Studio Albums.* Four-CD box set.
Belle and Sebastian, *How to Solve Our Human Problems, Pts. 1-3.* Also on vinyl.
Born Ruffians, *Uncle, Duke & The Chief.* Also on vinyl.
Brandi Carlile, *By the Way, I Forgive You.* Also on vinyl.
Car Seat Headrest, *Twin Fantasy.* Also on vinyl.
Barbara Dane, *Hot Jazz, Cool Blues and Hard-Hitting Songs.* Smithsonian Folkways Recordings also has a same-day vinyl reissue of the 1966 LP *Barbara Dane and The Chambers Brothers.*
I'm with Her, *See You Around.* Also on vinyl.
Van Morrison, *Van Morrison in Concert.* DVD of Mr. Morrison's 2016 show at the BBC Radio Theatre.
Ought, *Room Inside the World.* Also on vinyl.
Sonny Rollins, *Way Out West: 60th Anniversary Deluxe Edition.* Vinyl.
Superchunk, *What a Time to Be Alive.* Also on vinyl.
Wild Beasts, *Last Night All My Dreams Came True.* Also on vinyl.

Sources: pauseandplay.com, allmusic.com, metacritic.com

Music > The Pauseandplay.com Record Roundup

Musicians - send your CDs, vinyl and/or cassettes to Beachcomber, P.O. Box 5707, Destin, FL 32540-5707. Email MP3s and streaming links to **chris@beachcomberdestin.com**.

Camille Bertault

Pas de geant

Okeh

French chanteuse Bertault's album *Pas de geant* ("Giant Steps") does not contain a cover of John Coltrane's famous composition. After failing a conservatory audition in 2015, Bertault recorded a French-lyric song of her own and recorded it spot-on over Trane's tune for YouTube, complete with lengthy scat passage. It earned her a shot at a first album (*En Vie*). The 16-track recording (her second) *Pas de géant,* shows off Bertault's vocal facility and energy, and her skillful sense of phrasing and timing. She's got a breathy, sometimes fluffy quality to her singing, but there's a mature and humorous underpinning.

- Bruce Collier

Chick Corea & Steve Gadd Band

Chinese Butterfly

Concord Jazz

Keyboardist Corea and drummer Gadd have reportedly been working together off and on for 50-some years. This eight-track studio recording, sporting five new pieces by Corea, also employs the talents of Beninese guitarist Lionel Loueke, among others. As you might expect from Corea, there's some lengthy "let's take our time and get into our heads" compositions. The title track is a classic example of Corea doing what he does best—playing traveling music for inner space. After all this time, you'll still sign up to sail along. This is one you'll want to return to… forever.

- Bruce Collier

Taylor Clark

Where the Trees Don't Grown in a Line

Independent

Lo-fi folky goodness awaits with Clark's 16-track album. Standouts include the anti-love song 'Go Home Girl' and the life anthem "Fear is a Liar." But Clark doesn't limit himself to modern content—check out the cheery "Pirate's Manifesto" that wavers between socially conscious and a fun sea-shanty. The entirety of the album was created by Clark—from writing to mixing—but Clark's strength as a lyricist provides the backbone for the album.

- Nikki Hedrick

Jumping the Gun

Chasing Tales

Independent

This three-piece band is based right outside of Pensacola, and they're ready to take on the world with their pop-turned-rock debut EP. With an emphasis on loud guitars and Hannah Mahute's vocals, these alt-rockers are on a strong path to making a major splash in the region

and beyond. Energetic, polished and memorable.

- Nikki Hedrick

Porches

The House

Domino

The House is the third studio album by Porches, the New York-based project led by Aaron Maine. The album is anxious and inward looking, as Maine grapples with the struggles of being social, saying goodbye, and more. His concerns are largely universal, and are made to feel a bit lighter as they get swept up in his swaying beats. Musically, it's a dynamic effort by Maine, with the introduction of more techno sensibilities to highlight the movement and energy of his signature dream pop. *The House* is an excellent soundtrack for these late winter days, when you want to revel in the feeling of keeping to yourself.

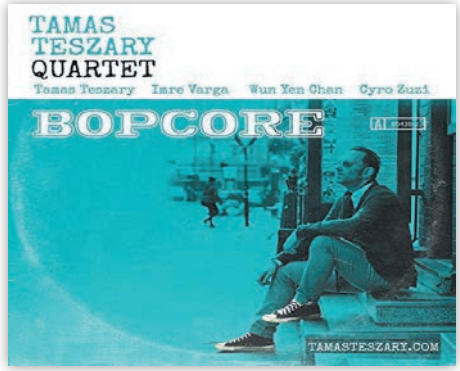
- Jane Morgan

Tamas Teszary Quartet

Bopcore

Tamas Teszary Quartet

London-based vibraphonist, drummer and composer Teszary recorded the eight-track album *Bopcore* with Imre



Varga (piano), Wun Yen Chan (bass) and Cyro Zuzi (drums). If you're a fan of vibe-masters like Milt Jackson and Lionel Hampton, this will be a very comfortable listen. The session is very tight and close-knit, with that precise blend of discipline and collective thought that characterizes all the great small jazz combos. As the title indicates, there's nostalgia at work here—you might be listening for Lee Morgan or Sonny Rollins to jump in—but there's no such thing as too much bop.

- Bruce Collier

Joshua Zook

Quinines

Independent

Sax aficionado Zook is out to craft hip-hop chill-out music. Featuring low-key looping beats and Zook's sax work, the EP is helped along by some guest vocals and intriguing reverb effects. But chill-out music is all about crafting mood—upbeat but calming is the name of the game. *Quinines* is a fine addition to the ever-growing genre, blending traditional instrumentation with electronic music to prove that jazz instruments aren't limited to jazz music.

- Nikki Hedrick

Pause&Play (the music site)

Pauseandplay.com – Since 1997, P&P has been the definitive place for music fans to find out when a new album is coming out. Also stay up on the latest reissues and music-related DVD/Blu-rays and books. Elton John says he uses Pauseandplay.com to keep track of new music, and *Entertainment Weekly* has included it on its list of "The 100 Greatest Web Sites," one of only 17 music sites to be selected.

#$@* Cancer – Rock for a Cure 2018

By Nikki Hedrick

Cancer is an ugly thread that connects too many of us.

The annual ***Rock for a Cure*** is embarking on its tenth year Sunday, **Feb. 18**, at The Block in Fort Walton Beach. The event commemorates a decade of music, camaraderie, and the community coming together with the shared goal of making a dent in the race towards cancer-fighting breakthroughs.

Event co-founder and Something to Yield bassist **Tommy Siren** is ready to celebrate the milestone year. "The fact we have been able to keep it going for this long is pretty amazing," he says. "Seeing how happy people are the night of the event… Cancer is such a horrible disease, not just for the person with it, but it's emotionally draining for family and friends to endure as well. So for people who have had to endure this tragic event in their lives to be able to take a step back and enjoy themselves, even if only for one night—that's the most rewarding part."

While funds are raised for the American Cancer Society, the event centers on people. The venue's TVs are loaded with a slideshow of loved ones lost or still fighting. Often, you'll find a little group pointing to an image as you see the beginnings of a story being told—maybe it's about that person's favorite car or their famous chocolate chip cookies. These stories are important.

The Helvetica Effect's **Rob Perez** is a longtime supporter of the event and a performer again this year. "It really means everything to me, on every level—personally and professionally," he says.

"If my efforts—whatever those may be, whether I'm playing or not—can help someone break through and help them forget that cancer exists even for one night, then my year is made until the next one. It's one of those shows that they'll have to drag me away from kicking and screaming if I'm not a part of it in some fashion at this point."

And that's the true spirit behind the event. A moment of bonding that reaches the corners of the community in a way that few events do. A night that embraces both forgetting and remembering. A night of solace in music.

"It's really cool how there is a core group of bands that span many genres but have the same heart for helping those in need. I love the way it brings many different kinds of people together," says **Nik Flagstar** of the varied lineup, which includes I'magene (formerly Continuum), The Luke Langford Band and Paracosm.

If you've never been to a Rock for a Cure event before, it can be a bit strange to put it into words without feeling like you are overselling the experience. It doesn't matter if you know everyone there or don't know a soul, you are welcomed as part of this tribe. Because cancer doesn't care what your job is, what you look like, or what football team you root for…and neither does the Rock for a Cure tribe.

"From a musician aspect, I always look forward to seeing the players and just hanging with them. Seeing all the different genres co-exist and get a little inspiration from each other," says Mr. Perez. "From the humanitarian side, it's one of those gigs that just exists for all the right reasons in every notion. We're all in it together and putting in all of our energies and time towards something we all feel incredibly passionate about and/or have been personally affected by it.

"That alone creates this camaraderie that's unparalleled. If you've only done it once, you're automatically a part of this thing that's bigger than yourself. 'Family' seems like a heavy word for it, but it also feels like the right word."

Doors open at 6 p.m. Admission is a $10 donation. Fokkers Pub will have food available for purchase on-site in addition to the event's raffles and door prizes.

Musicians and venues: Email **chris@beachcomberdestin.com** to get your gigs listed here.

THURSDAY, FEB. 8

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
I'MAGENE, 7 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
FORT DEFIANCE, 9 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 5-9 p.m.

LA PLAYA, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 p.m.
Ladies Night

MARINA BAY RESORT, Fort Walton Beach
BOB CUSHING, 6 p.m.

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin
ROB ROMANS, 8 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
JOHN HOORMANN, 8 p.m.-Midnight

FRIDAY, FEB. 9

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
JONES & COMPANY, 7-10 p.m.

CUVEE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE GOOD LOOKINGS, 9-11 p.m.

ELKS LODGE, Okaloosa Island
BOBBYD, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

THE FINISH LINE, Fort Walton Beach
BOB CUSHING, 9 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
DIKKI CARRIER, 8 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
SISSY BROWN, 9 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
JIM COUCH, 5-9 p.m.
RHINO JOCKEYS, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
BRANDON COLEMAN & DREW NIX from THE RED CLAY STRAYS, 5 p.m.

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin
ROB ROMANS, 9 p.m.

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 p.m.

PROPS BREWERY & GRILL, Fort Walton Beach
WAYNE HALL, 7 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
MAX McCANN, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

STANDING ROOM ONLY, Niceville
CALL THE LAW, 8 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Friday Night Originals, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 10

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
COCONUT RADIO, 6 p.m.

CUVEE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
MELISSA JOINER, 9 p.m.

THE FINISH LINE, Fort Walton Beach
BRANDON DAY, 7-11 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 9 p.m.

GRAYTON BEER COMPANY, Santa Rosa Beach
BRUCE SALMON, 2 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
JORDAN BALLANTYNE, 5-9 p.m.
THE GRAYTONES, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
THREE BEAN SOUP, 5 p.m.

THE MARKET SHOPS, Sandestin
RON ADAMS, 1-3 p.m.
FREE Winter Concert Series

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin
ROB ROMANS, 9 p.m.

THE PERFECT PIG, Santa Rosa Beach
BOB CUSHING, 6 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SANDOLLAR LOUNGE – WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBYD, 7-10 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

SUNDAY, FEB. 11

AJ'S, Destin
JONES & COMPANY, 4-8 p.m.

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
THE PICKLED PICKERS, 3-7 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRANDON DAY, 3-7 p.m.

THE BAY, Santa Rosa Beach
MIKE WHITTY & FRIENDS, 2-6 p.m.
Sunday Pickin' at The Bay

BOSHAMPS, Destin
I'MAGENE, 3 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 a.m.-Noon

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – DUKE BARDWELL – SHANNON WALLACE, et al., 11 a.m.

Live Music

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
Jazz Jam with MATT McCARTY, 6-9 p.m.

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, EmeraldGrande.com
DAVID HALL, 2 p.m.
Winter Guest Concert Series

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
COLE JORDAN, 5-9 p.m.

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 p.m.
Sunday Funday

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
WILL & LINDA, 5 p.m.

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin
BOB CUSHING, 11 a.m.
ROB ROMANS, 8 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
DREAD CLAMPITT, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 7-10 p.m.

STINKY'S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS with FRANKO "WASHBOARD" JACKSON, 11 a.m.

Jordan Ballantyne has a new band called Oroborus that is currently focusing on "Grateful Dead-type music and funky stuff, and, of course, things like The Doors, ZZ Top, Tom Petty, etc." Mr. Ballantyne, who sings and plays guitar, says the band is also working on original music. The name was inspired by the eternity symbol "which means time repeats itself. We grew up together and played as teenagers, and now time is repeating itself as we are playing together." In addition to Mr. Ballantyne, Oroborus includes Jared Hall on bass and vocals, and drummer Laurence "LC" Oferrall.

More at Facebook.com/OroborusBandFL.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

MONDAY, FEB. 12

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 4-7 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
BISCUIT MILLER AND THE MIX, 7 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR, Santa Rosa Beach
KYLE LaMONICA, 6 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
ROSHAMBO, 9 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
JASON FINDLEY, 5-9 p.m.
Cat Shirt Monday

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
RONNIE PRESLEY, 5 p.m.
"The Delta's Rockin' Countryboy"

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TUESDAY, FEB. 13

AJ'S, Destin
FLOW TRIBE, 8 p.m.
THE JORDAN ANDERSON BAND, 9 p.m.

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 7-10 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 6 p.m.

BLUE MOON LOUNGE, Milton
Open Mic Night, 8 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
BLAKE GRIFFITHS, 3-5 p.m.

DESTIN LIBRARY, Destin
KATIE OTT, 2 p.m.
Ms. Ott provides a brief history of the harp, her instrument of choice.

EDWARDS FINE FOOD & WINE, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH & IKE BARTLEY, 5:30 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
THE BOARDWALK BRASS BAND, 7-10 p.m.
Come party to NOLA-style funk and second line street beats and celebrate Fat Tuesday.

GRAYTON SEAFOOD CO., Santa Rosa Beach
KYLE OGLE & MARK GILLESPIE, 5-8 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

LA PAZ, Destin
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 p.m.
Taco Tuesday

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
LEE YANKIE, 5 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 p.m.

THE REP THEATRE, Seaside, LoveTheREP.com
KIM RICHEY, 7:30 p.m. ($25)
Escape to Create's fifth annual Valentine to 30A concert.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
BILL GARRETT, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 4-9 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

THE BAY, Santa Rosa Beach
THE GRAYTONES, 6-9 p.m.
Wednesday Night Bonfire on the Beach

BLUE MOON LOUNGE, Milton
Open Mic Night, 8 p.m.

BROUSSARD'S, Navarre
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 6 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 p.m.

EDWARDS FINE FOOD & WINE, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH & IKE BARTLEY, 5:30 p.m.

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
BISCUIT MILLER AND THE MIX, 7 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
AUSTIN JENNINGS, 5-9 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
ALBERT SIMPSON, 5 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB, Miramar Beach
EMERALD GOLD, 7 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SANDOLLAR LOUNGE – WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBYD, 7-10 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
JOHN HOORMANN, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
TED ROCKET Radio Program, 7-8 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 15

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 p.m.

FUDPUCKER'S, Destin
DOWNBEAT JAZZ ORCHESTRA, 7 p.m.
Call 850-654-1554 for priority seating.

Live Music

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
BISCUIT MILLER AND THE MIX, 7 p.m.

GULF PLACE, Santa Rosa Beach
CASEY KEARNEY, 4 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 5-9 p.m.

LA PLAYA, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 p.m.
Ladies Night

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
ALBERT SIMPSON, 5 p.m.

MARINA BAY RESORT, Fort Walton Beach
BOB CUSHING, 6 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
JOHN HOORMANN, 8 p.m.-Midnight

FRIDAY, FEB. 16

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
I'MAGENE, 9 p.m.

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
BRANDON DAY, 6-10 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION, Crestview
DEEPWELL, 8 p.m.

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
JONES & COMPANY, 7-10 p.m.

CUVEE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE GOOD LOOKINGS, 9-11 p.m.

EAST RIVER SMOKEHOUSE, Navarre
RED MOON TRAVELERS, 7 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
THE GRAYTONES, 8 p.m.

HAMMOCK BAY, Freeport
CASEY KEARNEY, 6 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
JIM COUCH, 5-9 p.m.
MELISSA JOINER TRIO, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
ALBERT SIMPSON, 5 p.m.

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 p.m.

PROPS BREWERY & GRILL, Fort Walton Beach
WAYNE HALL, 7 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
SPANISH FLY, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SANDOLLAR LOUNGE – WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBYD, 7-10 p.m.

STANDING ROOM ONLY, Niceville
ROB ROMANS, 9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

THE TANK, Valparaiso
BOB CUSHING, 9 p.m.

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Friday Night Originals, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 17

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
CASEY KEARNEY, 5 p.m.
JOSHUA ZOOK, 9 p.m.

BELLA BLUE BAR, Niceville
ROB ROMANS, 6 p.m.

BRIC A BRAC, Destin
COCONUT RADIO, 6 p.m.

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK, Panama City Beach
BRIAN SMALLEY, 6:30-8 p.m.

CLUB LA, Destin
SUNNY SWEENEY – WARD DAVIS – CODY JINKS

CUVEE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE GOOD LOOKINGS, 9-11 p.m.

DOC'S OYSTER BAR, Valparaiso
RONNIE PRESLEY, 6 p.m.
"The Delta's Rockin' Countryboy"

EAGLE'S LODGE, Fort Walton Beach
BOB CUSHING, 8 p.m.

THE FINISH LINE, Fort Walton Beach
BRANDON DAY, 7-11 p.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
KICKSTAND JENNY, 8 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
JORDAN BALLANTYNE, 5-9 p.m.
CHASING JAYMIE, 8 p.m.-Midnight

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
WEBB DALTON, 5 p.m.

THE MARKET SHOPS, Sandestin
CHUCK LAWSON, 1-3 p.m.
FREE Winter Concert Series

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

SUNDAY, FEB. 18

AJ'S, Destin
JONES & COMPANY, 4-8 p.m.

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
THE PICKLED PICKERS, 3-7 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRANDON DAY, 3-7 p.m.

THE BAY, Santa Rosa Beach
MIKE WHITTY & FRIENDS, 2-6 p.m.
Sunday Pickin' at The Bay

THE BLOCK, Fort Walton Beach
THE HELVETICA EFFECT – LUKE LANGFORD BAND – NIK FLAGSTAR AND HIS DIRTY MANGY DOGS – PARACOSM – QWERTY, et al.
Rock for a Cure

Live Music Review

Machine Head

Vinyl Music Hall, Pensacola

When you finally get the chance to see a band you love, one you've listened to over and over, there is always this small slice of whether or not they'll stand up to your expectations. Especially when you take into consideration that the band has experienced some lineup changes since its inception.

What does Machine Head sound like? They are a heavy metal band with heart and a few sing-along choruses. They've pulled from thrash, groove metal, death metal, and mainstream rock influences over the course of their 25-plus years to craft a sound that is distinctively theirs.

Machine Head does things a bit different. They famously have been focusing on "An Evening with…" tour formats, so the concerts are devoid of opening acts. The band more than makes up for this with a massive setlist. Machine Head performed some 20-plus songs for a concert that clocked in at close to three hours.

The band does more than play through the hits and new tunes. They bring an unbridled energy that eggs the audience on. Vocalist-guitarist Robb Flynn seemed to be moved by the Vinyl Music Hall audience's desire to get lost in the music. We chanted the band name, sang at the top of our lungs, and moved with the music.

But two kids near the stage really caught Flynn's attention—a 12-year-young lady attending her first heavy show and an unrelated 16-year-old young man with enough enthusiasm for the entire front row.

At the end of the night, I was sore, tired, and had a giant grin plastered on my face. You can't ask for more than that.

- Nikki Hedrick

Live Music

BOSHAMPS, Destin
I'MAGENE, 3 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 a.m.-Noon

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – DUKE BARDWELL – SHANNON WALLACE, et al., 11 a.m.

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
Jazz Jam with MATT McCARTY, 6-9 p.m.

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, EmeraldGrande.com
BOBBYD, 2 p.m.
Winter Guest Concert Series

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
COLE JORDAN, 5-9 p.m.

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 p.m.
Sunday Funday

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
CADILLAC ATTACK, 5 p.m.

McGUIRE'S IRISH PUB, Destin
BOB CUSHING, 11 a.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
DREAD CLAMPITT, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 7-10 p.m.

STINKY'S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS with FRANKO "WASHBOARD" JACKSON, 11 a.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

MONDAY, FEB. 19

AJ'S, Destin
LUKE LANGFORD BAND, 4 p.m.

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 4-7 p.m.

THE GATHERING SPOT AT WATERCOLOR, Santa Rosa Beach
KYLE LaMONICA, 6 p.m.

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
ROSHAMBO, 9 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
JASON FINDLEY, 5-9 p.m.
Cat Shirt Monday

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
JUSTIN YAWN, 5 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
CHRIS HAYES, 8 p.m.-Midnight

TUESDAY, FEB. 20

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 7-10 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
ALEXA BURROUGHS, 6 p.m.

BLUE MOON LOUNGE, Milton
Open Mic Night, 8 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
BLAKE GRIFFITHS, 3-5 p.m.

CLUB LA, Destin
THE EXPENDABLES – PACIFIC DUB – THROUGH THE ROOTS

EDWARDS FINE FOOD & WINE, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH & IKE BARTLEY, 5:30 p.m.

GRAYTON SEAFOOD CO., Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 5-8 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 p.m.

LA PAZ, Destin
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 p.m.
Taco Tuesday

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
STICKY TOO, 5 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.

SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
BILL GARRETT, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 4-9 p.m.

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

THE BAY, Santa Rosa Beach
THE PICKLED PICKERS, 6-9 p.m.
Wednesday Night Bonfire on the Beach

BLUE MOON LOUNGE, Milton
Open Mic Night, 8 p.m.

CAMILLE'S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 p.m.

EDWARDS FINE FOOD & WINE, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH & IKE BARTLEY, 5:30 p.m.

FOKKER'S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 p.m.

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
AUSTIN JENNINGS, 5-9 p.m.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S, Destin, lulubuffett.com/destin
BRANDON WHITE, 5 p.m.

OCEAN CLUB, Miramar Beach
EMERALD GOLD, 7 p.m.

THE RED BAR, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008
RED BAR JAZZ BAND, 5:30-10 p.m.

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 p.m.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 p.m.
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 p.m. (Courtyard)

SANDOLLAR LOUNGE – WHITE SANDS BOWLING CENTER, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBYD, 7-10 p.m.

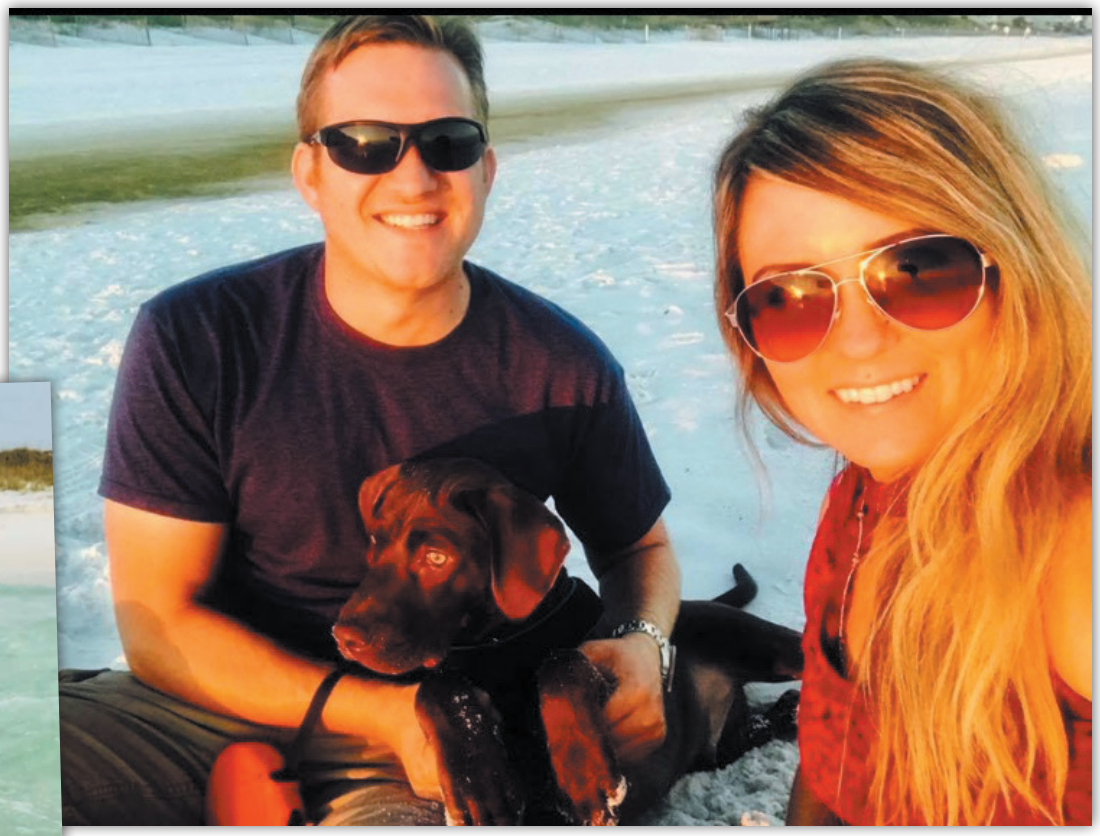
SWIZZLE STICK LOUNGE, Okaloosa Island
JOHN HOORMANN, 8 p.m.-Midnight

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
TED ROCKET Radio Program, 7-8 p.m.

PET OF THE ISSUE
Samson

Submitted by Jennifer Chapple

Samson, a Lab mix, is best friend to Ms. Chapple and fiancé Robert Brill, who live in Santa Rosa Beach. "I rescued Samson from Alaqua Animal Refuge (in May 2017) when he was a puppy," Ms. Chapple tells Beachcomber. *"We were looking (for) an addition to our family, and we fell in love with Samson. He was already adopted when we met him, but fortunately the family returned him because they had large tortoises and were worried about (Samson's) safety."*



Samson (center) with his humans Robert and Jennifer.

Samson enjoys taking a dip in the Gulf, along with long walks (sniffing around Watercolor in particular) and visits to Alaqua Unleashed dog park, where he gets to frolic with pals Monty, Bailey, Charlie, Ripley, Zephyr and Murphy.

Samson rests up for the next day's adventures. "He has been the center of our world," says Jennifer.

Samson and Robert enjoy a lovely Beachcomberland sunset.

Submit your best friend for a future Pet of the Issue feature! Email **chris@beachcomberdestin.com.**

Coming March 8: Stephen King and Molly (a/k/a The Thing of Evil)!

Good Times, Great Food... Sandestin Gumbo Festival Coming Presidents Day Weekend

Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort announces great gumbo paired with first-rate fun at the Gulf Coast's favorite winter food event, ***The 29th Annual Sandestin Gumbo Festival,*** Friday and Saturday, **Feb. 16 and 17.** Visitors and gumbo-lovers from across the southeast are expected to join in the festivities during the extended holiday weekend.

The Sandestin Gumbo Festival has been known as one of the largest and most popular winter food events along Florida's Emerald Coast. Now in its 29th year, the event takes over The Village of Baytowne Wharf during Presidents Day weekend.

Kick off the weekend Friday at Hammerhead's Bar & Grill with a delicious Baytowne Seafood Boil beginning at 5 p.m. On Saturday, from noon to 4 p.m., enjoy live Zydeco music from **Dikki Du and the Zydeco Krewe,** family activities and the best gumbo cook-off on the Gulf Coast.

Festival guests can vote for People's Choice awards in gumbo and become eligible for raffle items from the participating restaurants. After the People's Choice honors are given, judges will award first, second and third place in the participant categories, as well as an award for best display. This year, event sponsor Community Broadcasters is awarding a $1,000 commercial prize package to their favorite gumbo. The awards ceremony will begin at approximately 4 p.m.

"It's time to see who has the best gumbo on the Emerald Coast for 2018," says **Julie Stuckey,** events manager for The Village of Baytowne Wharf. "This festival's atmosphere is so fun, with live music, free kid's activities, and restaurants from all over our area vying for your vote. It's a fun day for the whole family."

Current participants include Bubba Gump Shrimp Co, Boathouse Oyster Bar, Burnt Pine Golf Club at Sandestin, Cabana Café, Chiringo, Crab Island Cantina, Ernie's Dockside Café, Dewey Destin, Gibson Catering, Harry T's, Marina Bar & Grill at Sandestin, Marlin Grill, O Quigley's Seafood Steamer and Sports Bar, Slip Lips Seafood & Oyster House, Sunset Bay Café, and John Wehner's Village Door Dockside Restaurant.

Tickets are $25 in advance and $30 on event day and are now available for purchase online at **SandestinGumboFestival.com.**

The Sandestin Gumbo Festival is proud to partner with **Sandestin Foundation for Kids,** where a portion of the proceeds benefit the foundation's causes and organizations that have the most impact and make a meaningful and positive difference in the lives of children.

The Village of Baytowne Wharf invites local businesses and restaurants to join in the fun by becoming gumbo participants. Participants of the Sandestin Gumbo Festival will be included in the event's marketing package and have an opportunity to win radio and print advertising through sponsors. Also, award winners will receive prize money. Email **contact@baytownewharf.com** for more information.

All information is subject to change. Please refer to the contact numbers and/or emails/websites for up-to-the-minute details. Send us your Feb. 22-March 7 events by 5 p.m. Thursday, **Feb. 15,** *or they will not be in our next issue. Please submit events in the format used here. Photos welcome. Email* **chris@beachcomberdestin.com**.

THURSDAY, FEB. 8

BIRDS OF PARADISE MARDI GRAS BALL
Lucy Buffett's LuLu's, Destin, 7 p.m.
LuLuBuffett.com/Destin
A Big Easy-inspired dinner buffet, open bar, photo booth, champagne toast, crowning of the king and queen, and live music from **Hotwire.**

KIDS' VALENTINE'S STORY TIME
Destin Library, 9:30 a.m.
850-837-8572
For children ages 4-12 and their parents. The program features music, stories and Valentine's themed activities. FREE.

FRIDAY, FEB. 9

HISTORY SANDWICHED-IN WITH ARTIST ELUSTER RICHARDSON
Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso, Noon
Heritage-Museum.org
Mr. Richardson's presentation is titled "Do You See What I See?" Explore how colors, shapes and emotions influence art. Bring a sandwich and enjoy the FREE lecture. Space is limited, so call 850-678-2615 to reserve a seat.

MARDI GRAS PUB CRAWL
HarborWalk Village, Destin, 6 p.m.-Midnight
EmeraldGrande.com
For a $10 donation to **Alaqua Animal Refuge,** enjoy good times and drink specials at all your favorite HarborWalk watering holes. If you overindulge, you can call 844-651-9124 for accommodations.

SATURDAY, FEB. 10

FORT WALTON BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT CAR SHOW
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
FWB.org/fire
Enjoy food, raffles and entertainment in the Fairgrounds' indoor display area. FREE. Car show entry fee is $20 in advance, $25 at the gate. Preregister at the website above. A portion of the proceeds will go toward medical expenses for children and families of local firefighters in need. For more info, call 850-758-5437 or email **firemedic2415@yahoo.com.**

HANNAH MARTIN'S FOURTH ANNUAL BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, Miramar Beach, 6-10 p.m.
HannahMartinsParty.com
The event, *La Lumiere: A Metropolitan Affair,* will benefit the **Cultural Arts Alliance of Walton County, Special Olympics Florida – Walton County,** and **Westonwood Ranch.** For a $200 donation ($250 at the door), guests will enjoy dinner, drinks, and entertaining casino games. Plus live music from **Mr. Big and the Rhythm Sisters,** and commemorative photo booth. To purchase tickets, visit the website above, or call Crystal at 850-714-4271.

MARDI GRAS GOLF SCRAMBLE TO BENEFIT HERITAGE MUSEUM
Shalimar Pointe Golf Club, Shalimar
Heritage-Museum.org
Cost is $70 per person or $250 for a foursome. Participation includes golf scramble, lunch, prizes, silent auction, raffles, flight winners, four hole-in-ones, and a closest-to-the-pin contest. Hole signs and additional corporate sponsorship levels are available. Registration deadline is **Feb. 6.**

MY FURRY VALENTINE ADOPTION EVENT
PetSmart, Destin, 11 a.m.
You can't buy love, but you can sure as hell rescue some.

Events

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET
Seaside, 8 a.m.
SeasideFL.com

TENTH ANNUAL MARDI GRAS PARADE
HarborWalk Village, Destin, 2-5 p.m.
EmeraldGrande.com

Beads, beads, beads! Plus—colorful costumes, dazzling floats, live music and street performers. FREE to attend—entry fee for parade participants is $25 and benefits **Alaqua Animal Refuge**.

THIRD ANNUAL TROPICAL RE-UNION VOW RENEWAL
Lucy Buffett's LuLu's, Destin, 11 a.m.
LuLuBuffett.com/Destin
Renew your wedding vows at this FREE Ceremony, complete with flowers for the brides, wedding cake, a customized wedding vow renewal certificate, photo booth, champagne toast, and prizes. Ceremony starts promptly at noon, so arrive early. Preregister online, please.

SUNDAY, FEB. 11

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MARDI GRAS DOG PARADE
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 2 p.m.
BaytowneWharf.com

This year's theme is "Bone Appetit"!

SUNDAY BREAKFAST
American Legion Post #235, Fort Walton Beach, 8:30-11:30 a.m.
This week's featured item is Pecan Praline French Toast.

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

MONDAY, FEB. 12

TAI CHI
Destin Library, 9 a.m.
taichiforarthritis.com
One-hour class with certified instructor **Barbara Rezmer.** Cost is $5 per session with enrollment limited to 12. Call 850-837-8572 for more info.

TUESDAY, FEB. 13

FAT TUESDAY CELEBRATION/MARDI PAWS
HarborWalk Village, Destin, 5-8 p.m.
EmeraldGrande.com

FREE red beans and rice starting at 5 p.m., followed by the second annual Mardi Paws costume contest ($10 donation to Alaqua Animal Refuge to enter).

KIDS' VALENTINE'S CRAFTS
Destin Library, 3-7 p.m.
850-837-8572
Children ages 4 to 12 and their parents are invited to create a unique Valentine for that special someone. FREE.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL FAT TUESDAY PARADE
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 5 p.m.
BaytowneWharf.com

Unique and colorful floats, golf carts and pickup trucks roll down the streets. Dress in your Mardi Gras best, and enjoy as parade goers are showered with a barrage of beads, moon pies, and other trinkets. The post-parade celebration continues into the night with street performers, "throws" tossed from balconies, and parties at various Village merchants.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14

BALLROOM BINGO
American Legion Post #235, Fort Walton Beach, 6-8:30 p.m.

CHAIR YOGA WITH TRICIA HAGEN
Walton County Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 11:30 a.m.
850-267-4809
Ms. Hagen uses a gentle approach of yoga poses to help reap benefits while seated. Classes are 45 minutes long and donation-based.

MARVEL TRIVIA
World of Beer, Destin, 7 p.m.
For all you romantic bastards…

PRIME TIME WITH HISTORIAN RONNIE McBRAYER
Walton County Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 a.m.
youseemore.com/walton
Mr. McBrayer, the author of *Wild, Wild Walton* and *Down by the Riverside,* will speak (and sing!) about Walton County history.

THURSDAY, FEB. 15

AJ'S JOB FAIR
AJ's, Destin – AJ's, Grayton Beach – AJ's on the Bayou, Fort Walton Beach – AJ's Oyster Shanty, Okaloosa Island, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 4-7 p.m.
Fill out an application online at **AJsDestin.com** or stop by any of the above locations.

"ATTN: CONSCIOUS WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS – DISCOVER THE THRE SECRETS TO UNLEASH THE HIDDEN POWER WITHIN YOU TO BALANCE YOUR LIFE AND YOUR WORK"
Destin Library, 6 p.m.
ArleneKarian.com
Join "Master Mentor and Life Strategist" **Arlene Karian** for a FREE public presentation that might just allow you to unleash your full power and bring fulfillment, balance and joy to your life.

DESTIN CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR CANDIDATES FORUM
Destin United Methodist Church, Destin, 6 p.m.
The candidates make opening and closing statements and answer questions from the Destin Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. If time permits, audience questions may be asked.

FRIDAY, FEB. 16

"HISTORIC TECHNOLOGY" HOMESCHOOL TOUR
Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, Valparaiso, 1-2:30 p.m.
Heritage-Museum.org
Students will learn how technology has evolved over the years, and they'll get to make and demonstrate catapults. For grades K through 6. Cost is $8 per student ($6 for family of museum members), children ages 4 and under FREE—one parent/teacher per family FREE, additional adults $3 each. Call 850-678-2615 to register.

FRIDAY, FEB. 16-SATURDAY, FEB. 17

QUILTING: A WORK OF HEART
DeFuniak Springs Community Center, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Both Days
Vendors, door prizes, guild boutiques, demos, mini-classes and lots of beautiful quilts on display. Cost is $6 for adults, children 12 and under FREE. Sponsored by Chautauqua Quilters Guild and Silver Threads Quilt Guild of Fort Walton Beach.

SPRING CRAFT SHOW
Destin Community Center, Destin, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday
850-654-5184
Over 50 vendors display handcrafted jewelry, art, wood carvings, food and much more. Vendor booths available for $45 for Destin residents, $55 for non-residents.

SATURDAY, FEB. 17

HOPS FOR HOUNDS – A DOG WALK AND KIDS FUN RUN

Grayton Beer Company, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 a.m.
Dog-Harmony presents a two-mile dog walk and one-mile kids' fun run as well as an array of activities for the whole family, including the four-legged members. All proceeds from this event will go to Dog-Harmony to help keep tails wagging in the community. The starting point is Grayton Beer Company, with a pit stop at Idyll Hounds Brewing Company, circling back for the after party with food, live music and draft beer. Cost is $30 for one human and one hound to participate in the Dog Walk and $20 per entry

Ladies and gentlemen, the 2018 Walton Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors! From left—Megan Harrison, Ginger Barry Boyd, Juliet Milam, Jane Kerrigan, Dana Hahn, Lori Smith, Steve Wolfrom, Jim Bagby, Jessica Proffitt-Bracken, Allison Smith, Bill Fletcher, Fred Leopold, Cristie Kedroski, Lisa Comeau, Jennifer Frost, Dave Jefferson, Eric Galloway, Jonathan Futtrell, Patrick Murphy and Graham Campbell-Work.
Photo submitted by Mackenzie Amos.

for the Kids' Fun Run. Each registered person will receive a t-shirt, "wag bag," and a draft beer in Grayton Beer Company's Tap Room (ages 21 and over). Back Beach BBQ and Deep Dish Rescue will be onsite serving lunch and will donate a portion of proceeds to Dog-Harmony.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET
Seaside, 8 a.m.
SeasideFL.com

SUNDAY, FEB. 18

CRESCENDO! A SPIRITED FUNDRAISING EVENT
Coastal Ballroom, Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa, Miramar Beach, 11;30 a.m.
SinfoniaGulfCoast.org

Nicholas Rodriguez, star of stage and screen.

High-end live auction, world-class vintners, a cabaret performance by award-winning actor **Nicholas Rodriguez** *(One Life to Live, Sex and the City 2)* and more, in support of Sinfonia Gulf Coast and its music education programs. Tickets are $100 per person and include food, wine, reserved table seating and valet parking. Tables of 10 may be reserved by calling 850-460-8800.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST
American Legion Post #235, Fort Walton Beach, 8:30-11:30 a.m.
This week's special is a stunning breakfast burrito.

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

MONDAY, FEB. 19

TAI CHI
Destin Library, 9 a.m.
taichiforarthritis.com
One-hour class with certified instructor **Barbara Rezmer.** Cost is $5 per session with enrollment limited to 12. Call 850-837-8572 for more info.

TUESDAY, FEB. 20

FREE YOGA
Sunshine Yoga, Destin, 6:30 p.m.
Donations will be accepted on behalf of "a local children's charity." Beginners welcome.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21

BALLROOM BINGO
American Legion Post #235, Fort Walton Beach, 6-8:30 p.m.

CHAIR YOGA WITH TRICIA HAGEN
Walton County Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 11:30 a.m.
850-267-4809
Ms. Hagen uses a gentle approach of yoga poses to help reap benefits while seated. Classes are 45 minutes long and donation-based.

PRIME TIME WITH DOUG LILES
Walton County Coastal Branch Library, Santa Rosa Beach, 10 a.m.
youseemore.com/walton
Mr. Liles' topic of discussion is "Building Off-Grid."

2018 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Destin History and Fishing Museum, Destin, 6 p.m.
Destin historian **Hank Klein** will tell the story of the old East Pass, the inlet from the Gulf of Mexico to Choctawhatchee Bay.

THURSDAY, FEB. 22

BUBBLY BAYTOWNE
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 5-7 p.m.
BaytowneWharf.com
FREE champagne and shopping for ages 21 and up. Sip and shop along the Village streets.

FRIDAY, FEB. 23

"SNOWBIRD VOICES – FROM PEN TO PAPER TO YOU"
Destin Library, 1:30 p.m.
phager60@hotmail.com
The Snowbird Writers Group presents selected works from its membership, including short stories, art, poetry and music. FREE, with reception following the program.

Children in Crisis president and CEO Ken Hair receives a truckload of food and paper products from longtime CIC supporter Don Hall of Niceville. Mr. Hall asked his birthday party guests to bring food donations for CIC in lieu of gifts. Learn more at ChildrenInCrisisFL.org or call 850-864-4242.

Beachside Worship Services

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION EPISCOPAL CHURCH UECNA 1928 Book of Common Prayer Service, 10 a.m. Sundays, communion service second and fourth Sundays, morning prayer, first and third Sundays. 66 8th Street, Shalimar, 850-651-9800.

DESTIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND LIFE CENTER Sunday services—beach service at Henderson State Park, Destin, 7:30 a.m. (bring your own chair); beach service on the Destin Harbor at Brotula's, 9:30 a.m. (bring your own chair); XALT at Destin Life Center, 200 Beach Drive, Destin, 9:30 a.m., Traditions at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary; sunset beach service at Henderson State Park, 4 p.m. (bring your own chair). 850-837-2021.

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH Sunday worship services: 8:45 and 11 a.m. Nursery and children's church is available. Wednesday bible study at 7 p.m. Located at 306 S. Geronimo St. in Miramar Beach, three blocks west of Silver Sands Outlet Mall. 850-837-7561.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DESTIN Sunday bible study at 9:15 a.m., worship service at 10:30 a.m., prayer group at 5 p.m. Wednesday supper at 6 p.m., followed by youth-kids programs and bible study at 6:30. 201 Beach Drive, 850-837-6515.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SEAGROVE Sunday services at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 4915 E Hwy. 30A, Seagrove, 850-231-2884.

GOOD NEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Sunday services 8:50 a.m., traditional worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday school, 11 a.m., contemporary worship, 4747 Hwy 98W, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-9191.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Sunday worship service, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for kids, confirmation class for youth, and adult bible study, 10:45 a.m. 4325 Commons Drive, Destin, 850-654-1679.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH Beach worship at 8 a.m. at Ed Walline Park, intersection of Scenic Highway 30A and CR-393, Santa Rosa Beach. Vintage service at 10:15 a.m. at 3834 U.S. 98 West. For more info, call Pastor Jason Scheler at 850-267-0322 or email **pastorj@hopeonthebeach.org.**

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH Saturday vigil mass, 5 p.m.; Sunday masses, 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Daily liturgies, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.; Holy Days of Obligation, 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Fridays, 9-10 a.m.; Confessions, Saturdays, 4-4:45 p.m. or by appointment. 259 Miramar Beach Dr., Destin, 850-837-0358.

SAFE HARBOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., worship service at 10:30. 801 Airport Road, Destin, 850-837-2133.

SAINT RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH Saturday Vigil mass at 5:30 p.m. year round. Sunday services at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Holy Day services, call the office please. 137 Moll Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, just off U.S. 98. 850-267-2558. **www.saintritaparish.org.**

SANTA ROSA COMMUNITY CHURCH Interdenominational service 10 a.m. Sundays. 3524 Hwy. 98W, 850-267-7599.

SHORELINE CHURCH Non-denominational modern Sunday service at 9 and 10:30 a.m. at AMC Motion Pictures in Destin Commons, and Sundays at 9 and 10:30 a.m. at Uptown Station Campus, Fort Walton Beach. 850-650-8658 or **www.shorelinechurch.net.**

ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH Service at 10 a.m. Sundays. 307 Hwy. 98E, Destin, 850-650-2737

ST. MARKELLA & DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH Sunday service at 10 a.m. 400 Hwy. 98E, Mary Esther, 850-244-0822.

ST. SIMON'S ON THE SOUND EPISCOPAL CHURCH Sunday services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. 28 Hwy. 98W, FWB, 850-244-8621.

VILLAGE BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday services at 9 and 10:30 a.m. 101 Matthew one block south of Hwy. 98E, Destin, 850-837-8107.

Beachcomberland Places

ANTIQUES

DE FRANCE ANTIQUES & FLEA MKT. with over 80+ vendors, lots of unique items to choose from. 230 S.E. Eglin Pkwy. 850-314-7500.

SMITH'S ANTIQUES MALL & INTERIORS MARKET 25,000 sq. ft. and 94 vetted dealers have made Smith's the favorite with decorators, locals and tourists for over 20 years. Voted Best of the Emerald Coast for 14 consecutive years, Finest on the Emerald Coast, and Best in Destin…need we say more? Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. 12500 Emerald Coast Parkway, Miramar Beach (near Silver Sands). 850-654-1484. **www.smithsantiquesmall.com.**

EDUCATIONAL

EMERALD COAST SCIENCE CENTER A unique museum allowing visitors to touch and use the exhibits, including optical illusions, a nature room and a wind tunnel. 31 SW Memorial Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, 850-664-1261. **www.ecscience.org.**

FARMERS MARKETS

30A FARMERS MARKETS Two convenient locations. Contact Diane at 850-499-4697 for more info.

- **GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS' MARKET AT SANDESTIN** 600 Grand Boulevard, Miramar Beach. Saturdays year-round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **30A FARMERS' MARKET IN ROSEMARY BEACH COMMUNITY** Sundays year-round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursdays (Memorial Day through Labor Day), 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

GOLF

REGATTA BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB This award-winning 18-hole course offers an extraordinary golfing experience for players of all skill levels and was named one of *Golf Digest's* Top Places to Play. Equipment rental available. 465 Regatta Bay Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8080. **www.regattabay.com.**

SANTA ROSA GOLF & BEACH CLUB Referred to as the "Purest golf in the Florida Panhandle" by *Golf* Magazine, this 18-hole, par 72 course offers five sets of tees and a challenge for every skill level of handicap. Situated on 80 pristine acres in the heart of Santa Rosa Beach, this course has a unique character only found around the Highway 30A corridor. Holes three through five wind around a complex of dunes, all within a few hundred yards of the Gulf of Mexico. Dining, driving range, putting green and club rentals available. 334 Golf Club Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2229. **www.santarosaclub.com.**

MARINE PARKS/ AQUARIUMS

GULFARIUM MARINE ADVENTURE PARK Delight in watching dolphins leap and sea lions play during spectacular shows! Or participate and interact directly with these and other remarkable marine animals including stingrays, seals and penguins during interactive programming (advance reservations required). Enjoy educational exhibits and beautiful Gulf views. Open daily at 9 a.m. 1010 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-243-9046. **www.gulfarium.com.**

MUSEUMS

DESTIN HISTORY & FISHING MUSEUM Open year round, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for holiday hours of operation. Admission is $5 for adults, $4 for seniors and military and $3 for children. 108 Stahlman Avenue, Destin, 850-837-6611.

INDIAN TEMPLE MOUND MUSEUM Artifacts and displays showing the rich Indian history of this area. 139 Hwy. 98SE, FWB, 850-833-9595.

MUSIC STORES

LEITZ MUSIC Guitars, bass, drums and keyboards, plus recording, DJ and PA equipment. Sales, repairs and lessons. Gibson, Fender, PRS, Taylor, Martin, Ibanez and more. Open Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sundays noon-5 p.m. Located in Uptown Station, Fort Walton Beach, 850-863-1099. **www.facebook.com/LeitzMusicFWB.**

PARKS & PUBLIC BEACH ACCESS

BEASLEY WAYSIDE PARK Picnic tables, public beach area, barbecue grills, bathhouse, and restrooms. Gulf side of Okaloosa Island, Hwy. 98W.

BLACKWATER RIVER STATE PARK NW of FWB off Hwy. 90. You can catch sight of lots of wildlife while camping, canoeing, hiking, and fishing. Milton, 850-983-5363.

BLUE MOUNTAIN BEACH Public parking for this access is located at the south end of CR-83 and Scenic Highway 30-A.

BRACKIN WAYSIDE PARK Gulf side of Okaloosa Island on Hwy. 98W. Facilities include restaurants, saloons, children's playground, beach volleyball, three beach accesses, showers, public restrooms, and picnic table.

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK offers hiking, birding, beachcombing, swimming, fishing, canoeing and kayaking along with nine historic buildings. Located at 23937 Panama City Beach Parkway (U.S. 98), 12 miles east of 331, seven miles west of Highway 79. 850-233-5059.

CESSNA BAY Picnic tables, parking, rest rooms and boat access. 1476 N. CR-393.

CLEMENT E. TAYLOR CITY PARK This park is named after one of Destin's early settlers and is on Choctawhatchee Bay. Chock full of shade trees, there are picnic areas and restrooms, but no camping. Destin, off Calhoun Avenue.

DUNE ALLEN In Dune Allen beach this access has parking, but no bathrooms, showers or picnic area. 5753 Hwy 30-A W., Santa Rosa Beach.

ED WALLINE A large public beach access in South Walton, providing handicapped parking, picnic tables, restrooms and showers. Intersection of Hwy 30-A and CR-393.

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK An historic homestead under majestic, moss-draped oaks with a home surrounded by lawns and seasonal gardens. Tours of the home are Thursday through Monday hourly beginning at 10 a.m. with the last tour at 3 p.m. The park and picnic areas are open daily from 8 a.m. to sunset and located on CR-395 north off Hwy 98 in Point Washington. Call 850-231-4214 for more information.

GRAYTON BEACH STATE RECREATION AREA Camping, picnics, hiking, swimming, saltwater fishing, and boating. Showers and electricity are part of the amenities. Access from S. Hwy. 30-A, South Walton, 850-267-8300.

GRAYTON DUNES Handicapped and public parking plus beach access. Behind the Red Bar in Grayton Beach.

GULF SHORE MANOR Public restrooms, handicapped and public parking. 3468 E. Hwy 30-A, Seagrove Beach.

GULFVIEW HEIGHTS Located at the end of Gulfview Heights St, behind Goatfeather's restaurant, this access offers parking, picnic areas and restrooms.

HENDERSON BEACH STATE PARK This park has it all: camping, swimming area sheltered picnic areas, grills, and restrooms. But there is no boat ramp and jet skis and other personal watercraft are prohibited. 17000 Hwy. 98W, Destin, 850-837-7550.

INLET BEACH This area offers handicapped and public parking, restrooms and dune walkovers to the beach. 438 S. Orange St. in Inlet Beach.

LEGION BAY Picnic tables, public parking, boat ramp and restrooms. Intersection of Ponce de Leon and Crest Dr, 191 Crest Dr, Sandestin.

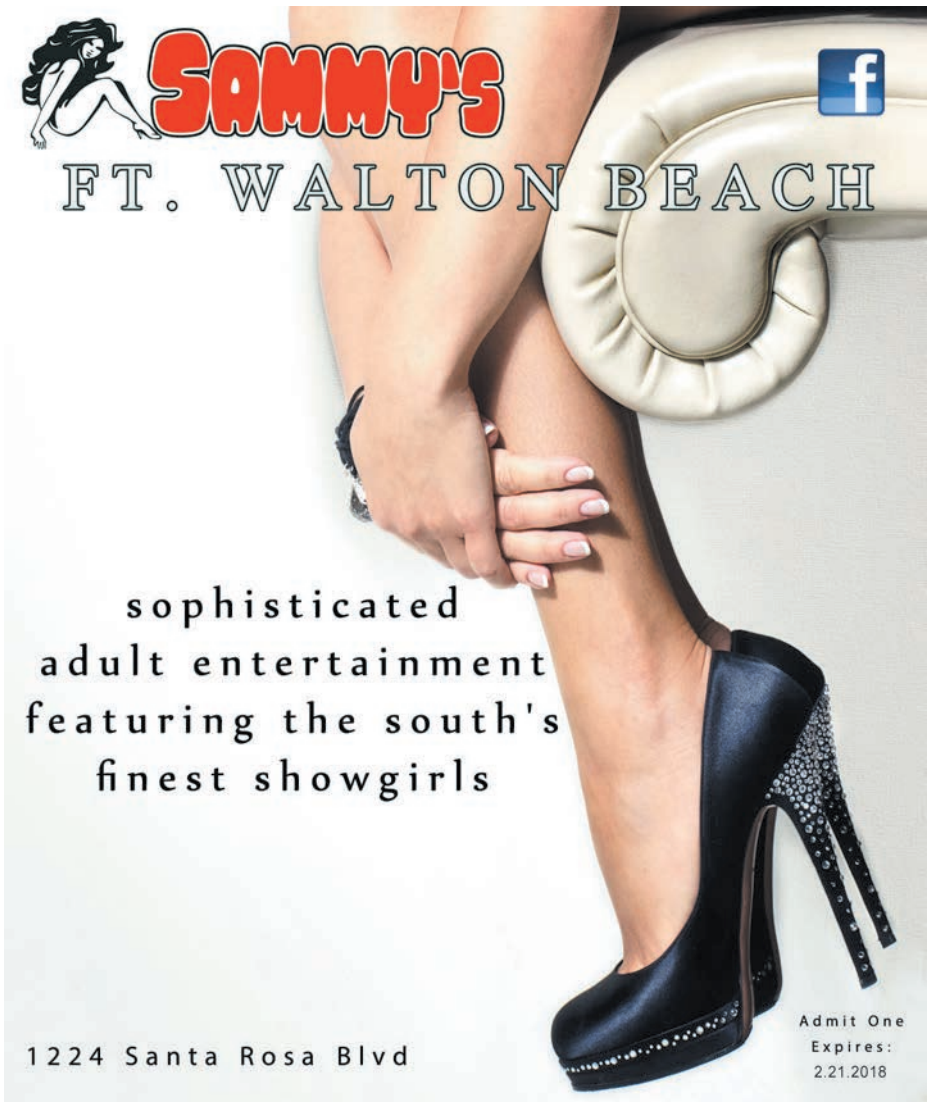
MARLER MEMORIAL PARK Public beach area, picnic tables, barbecue grills, boat ramp, restrooms and bathhouse. Bay side of Okaloosa Island, off Santa Rosa Blvd.

MIRAMAR BEACH ACCESS Parking with public beach access. Scenic Hwy 98 and Driftwood Road, adjacent to Pompano Joe's.

TOPSAIL HILL PRESERVE STATE PARK offers a wide variety of natural resources, including 3.2 miles of public beach access with majestic dunes over 25 feet tall. Our 1,600 acre preserve includes rare coastal dune lakes, old-growth long leaf pines and sand pine scrub, and a variety of wetlands offer a bird watching and hiking paradise. Visitors may bike, walk,or enjoy a quick ride to the beach on our timely tram service to swim, fish, sunbathe or beachcomb. Topsail Hill offers weekly ranger programs for all visitors to enjoy. A park store offers a variety of camping items, as well as souvenirs and bike, kayak, canoe and SUP rentals. Topsail Hill offers weekly ranger programs for all visitors to enjoy. Gregory E. Moore RV resort features a (non-heated) swimming pool and shuffleboard courts. Furnished bungalows are available for weekly stays. 7525 West County Highway 30A Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-8330. **www.floridastateparks.org/topsailhill.**

TUMBLING, ETC.

BEACH ELITE CHEER AND TUMBLE Here visiting and need to work on your tumbling skills? Just a short 15-minute drive from Destin in the heart of Fort Walton Beach, Beach Elite Cheer and Tumble is the only cheerleading and tumbling facility for ages 3 to 18 in the area. If you're looking for something fun and different to do, let our experienced and nationally certified staff help you out. Try a tumbling class for a $15 drop-in fee, or open gym every Friday from 6:30 to 10 p.m. with dinner included for only $15. For more information, visit **beachelitecheerleading.com,** call 850-362-6459, or email **info@beachelitecheerleading.com.** We hope to see you soon! **#GoodVibes**



Write On! Local Author Linda Sealy Knowles

Author Linda Sealy Knowles just released her sixth historical romance western, *Always Jess.* The Niceville-based writer has a book signing set for Saturday, **Feb. 17,** from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Destin Barnes & Noble store.

"I started writing at the age of 68 and have been writing for five years," Ms. Knowles says. "I want everyone to know that it's never too late to begin a new career."

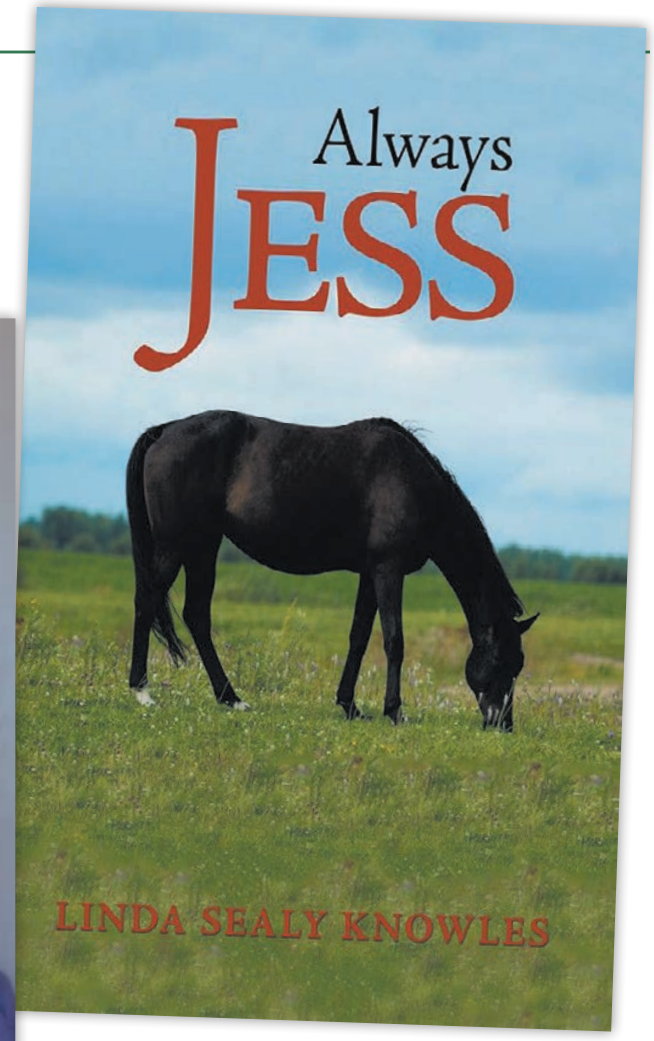
In the new novel, Jess Maxwell has been away from home and is now eager to return to Limason, Texas. Unfortunately, a pair of very bad men won't be happy until Jess is dead.

Mary Beth is home for the summer and has known Jess her whole life. Imagine Jess' surprise that, at the age of 19, Mary Beth has grown into a real beauty.

When the two reunite, sparks fly. Within days of Jess' return home, the villains show up and terrorize anyone who gets in their way, including Mary Beth.

Jess had planned to court and eventually marry the smart young woman, but the attack leaves her parlayed with fear, unwilling to trust a man ever again. Is seeking revenge against those who hurt her Jess' only way to prove his dedication and is it possible a wise old woman could help Mary Beth trust her feelings of love?

With honesty and compassion on his side, Jess might be able to convince Mary Beth of the gentle affection he has always had for her.



Ms. Knowles is originally from Satsuma, Alabama. Her previous books include *Journey to Heaven Knows Where, Hannah's Way, The Secret, Bud's Journey Home* and *Kathleen of Sweetwater, Texas.*

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TriCountyCommunityCouncil.com

SoWal Library Book Sale Feb. 9 and 10

The Friends of the Coastal Library of South Walton is having a book sale **Feb. 9 and 10**. The Friends is the support group for the Coastal Library.

Proceeds from the book sale and the Friends group goes to support such things as the children's reading program, children's computers, carpets and chairs for the community room, and the library's winter programs.

Hardcover books will sell for $1, paperbacks for 50 cents. Many recent titles will be available.

The Friends also have a book shop on site at the library, open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. most days Monday through Friday. Hardcover books are $2 and paperbacks are a buck apiece.

Upcoming Books

FEB. 13

Jonathan Abrams, ***All the Pieces Matter: The Inside Story of*** **The Wire®**

Rowan Blanchard, ***Still Here.*** Paperback.

Bart D. Ehrman, ***The Triumph of Christianity: How a Forbidden Religion Swept the World***

Helen Hardt, ***Unraveled (Steel Brothers Saga Book 9).*** Paperback.

Jonathan Kellerman, ***Night Moves.*** A *Beachcomber* Editor's Choice pick (see page 5).

John Lescroart, ***Poison (Dismas Hardy Book 17)***

Jason Matthews, ***The Kremlin's Candidate (Red Sparrow Trilogy Book 3)***

Steven Pinker, ***Enlightenment Now: The Case for Reason, Science, Humanism, and Progress***

John Shelby Spong, ***Unbelievable: Why Neither Ancient Creeds Nor the Reformation Can Produce a Living Faith Today***

FEB. 19

James Patterson and Candice Fox, ***Fifty Fifty (Harriet Blue Series)***

FEB. 20

Ryan T. Anderson, ***When Harry Became Sally: Responding to the Transgender Moment***

Patton Dodd, ***The Prayer Wheel: A Daily Guide to Renewing Your Faith with a Rediscovered Spiritual Practice***

Mark Greaney, ***Agent in Place (Gray Man Series)***

Gaz Oakley, ***Vegan 100: Over 100 Incredible Recipes from Avant-Garde Vegan***

Kellyann Petrucci, ***The 10-Day Belly Slimdown***

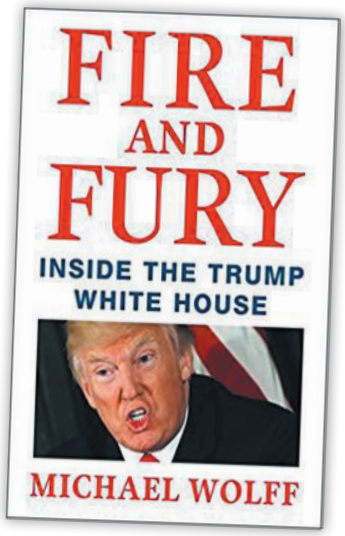
Sources: amazon.com, netgalley.com

Books

Recommended Reading

Michael Wolff

Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House
Henry Holt & Company



Fire and Fury was heavily hyped in the media, so when I finally got off the wait list at the bookstore, I bought it and started reading immediately. I felt conflicted with this book. Very few sources are willing to speak on record, and the author's note basically says that much of what is included in this book is hearsay—I wasn't sure on a statement by statement basis what was fact and what was exaggerated. The publishers understandably rushed to print, but the result is sloppy. I wish they had taken a few more months to correct typos and cite sources.

However, the book paints a believable portrait of an administration in turmoil and a leader who wasn't fully prepared for (and probably did not even want) the role he assumed. Based on the buzz surrounding this book, I expected it to make me angry at our president but was surprised to find that I felt sorry for him. Rather than supporting President Trump, the team of people surrounding him seem to be engaged in a *Game of Thrones*-style strategic battle amongst themselves.

- Marilu Morgan

Italian Wines 2018

Gambero Rosso Publishing

Pretty much anything you'd ever want to learn about the dauntingly complicated world of Italian wines can be found in *Italian Wines 2018*. This is not a coffee-table book, though. It's laced with vintage tables, thumbnail sketches of wineries, a winners list of annual awards (by number of glasses—*bicchieri*) and a concise guide to 22 Italian wine regions. In its 31st year now, the publisher hopes to build a "chronology" of the progress of modern Italian wines. Even if you never find a single one of the vintages listed, at least you'll be ready if you ever do.

- Bruce Collier

Movies + TV

LOCAL FILM SCREENINGS

MONDAY, FEB. 12

ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S "ROPE"
Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Arts Wing, Room 328, 6:30 p.m.
FREE screening of the classic thriller (filmed by Sir Alfred in uninterrupted takes), plus food, drinks and discussion.

THURSDAY, FEB. 15

"AMERICAN CREED"
Elegant Vue Event Center, Crestview, 7 p.m.
wsre.org
FREE screening of the documentary that dares to ask, "In a fractured nation, what ideals do we share in common?" The film will also be broadcast on PBS stations nationwide starting **Feb. 27.**

TUESDAY, FEB. 20

JOHN CROWLEY'S "BROOKLYN"
Destin Library, 2 p.m.
850-837-8572
Saoirse Ronan (*Lady Bird*) stars in this acclaimed romantic drama, set in the early 1950s. FREE and open to the public with first-come, first-served seating.

OPENING SOON IN THEATERS

FEB. 9

The 15:17 to Paris. Clint Eastwood returns to the director's chair with a true story based on a thwarted terrorist attack aboard a train bound for Paris.
Fifty Shades Freed. Dakota Johnson, Marcia Gay Harden.
Peter Rabbit. Beatrix Potter wept. Still, this might be worth a look because Domnhall Gleeson is in it—he was great in the recent Netflix movie *A Futile and Stupid Gesture.*

FEB. 16

Black Panther. Michael B. Jordan, Angela Bassett, Forest Whitaker.
Early Man. Animated comedy about prehistoric times from the great Nick Park.
Samson. Billy Zane, Lindsay Wagner (*tap tap*), Rutger Hauer.

Source: www.metacritic.com

UPCOMING DVD/ BLU-RAY/VOD RELEASES

FEB. 13

Blade of the Immortal. Ultraviolent action from director Takashi Mike.
Roman J. Israel, Esq. Academy Award nominee Denzel Washington.
Wonder. Jacob Tremblay, Julia Roberts, Owen Wilson.

FEB. 20

Daddy's Home 2. Will Ferrell, Mark Wahlberg, John Lithgow, Mel Gibson.
Mom and Dad. Nicolas Cage, Selma Blair.
The Star. Animated story of the first Christmas. Too soon. Or too late.

Source: www.metacritic.com

DESTIN EAST PASS TIDE AND SUNSET CHART

2.08	Sunrise	6:32am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:29pm	Low	3:18am
	Moon	48%	High	4:39pm
2.09	Sunrise	6:31am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:29pm	Low	4:07am
	Moon	39%	High	5:26pm
2.10	Sunrise	6:30am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:30pm	Low	4:54am
	Moon	30%	High	6:20pm
2.11	Sunrise	6:30am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:31pm	Low	5:39am
	Moon	21%	High	7:14pm
2.12	Sunrise	6:29am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:32pm	Low	6:20am
	Moon	14%	High	8:04pm
2.13	Sunrise	6:28am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:33pm	Low	6:56am
	Moon	8%	High	8:49pm
2.14	Sunrise	6:27am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:33pm	Low	7:25am
	Moon	3%	High	9:30pm
2.15	Sunrise	6:26am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:34pm	Low	7:49am
	Moon	1%	High	10:09pm
2.16	Sunrise	6:25am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:35pm	Low	8:06am
	Moon	0%	High	10:49pm
2.17	Sunrise	6:24am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:36pm	Low	8:16am
	Moon	0%	High	11:35pm
2.18	Sunrise	6:23am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:37pm	Low	8:17am
	Moon	3%		
2.19	Sunrise	6:22am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:37pm	High	12:31am
	Moon	8%	High	8:07pm
2.20	Sunrise	6:21am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:38pm	Low	1:55am
	Moon	15%	High	10:30pm
2.21	Sunrise	6:20am	TIDES	
	Sunset	5:39pm	High	2:27pm
	Moon	23%		

What's In a Name?

Paula Hilton *writes:*

I started Act4Murder in 2000 in California by writing a couple of scripts and putting them up on the worldwide web to purchase for performance.

Things weren't all that bad in 2000, as far as the world went. But here we are in 2018, and you can't turn on the TV without seeing something horrible that someone has done to someone else. I decided I do not want to add to that, and I was afraid the word "murder" in our name might lead some people to believe we're all for it, which isn't the case at all.

We're all about laughter, having a good time, making fun of ourselves, and offering adult entertainment that includes great stories, music and fun. So when I started running out of merchandise at the end of 2017, it seemed like a good time to make a name change. And now we are Act4Mystery.

Same performance group, just a different name, doing the same thing—performing comedic murder mysteries for dinner theater.

I made another change, too. Because some people would prefer not to share a table during dinner, we're now giving you that choice. When you make your reservation, let us know if you're okay with being seated with others, if you're not okay with it, or if it doesn't make any difference to you one way or the other.

In February, we're offering Valentine's Day candy and single red roses along with our VIP packages. We're still selling the old Act4Murder shirts and notebooks until we run out, so be sure and buy them up. They're bound to be collector's items one of these days, right?

Thanks to all our friends and fans, and we hope to see you at a show in 2018.

Discover more at **Act4Mystery.com.**

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Upcoming Shows

THURSDAY, FEB. 15

ACT4MYSTERY'S "KNOCK 'EM DEAD"
La Paz, Destin, 6:30 p.m.
Act4Mystery.com
Three legendary divas team up for a once-in-a-lifetime show, much to the chagrin of promoter Don Kashane. Romantic entanglements ensue, and someone's going to die! With **Paula Hilton, Debby Geisen, Cynthia Bergquist, Joe Chase, Jim Downum** and *Beachcomber's* own **Chris Manson.** Cost for dinner and show is $34.95. VIP packages available. Show info and tickets at the website, or call 850-862-2885.

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "SYLVIA"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 p.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

Nick Trollan and Hope Golds in EC Theatre Company's SYLVIA.

A modern romantic comedy about a marriage and a dog, A.R. Gurney's *Sylvia* centers on the world of a middle-aged New York couple whose lives are turned topsy-turvy when the husband brings home an exceptionally engaging canine running loose in Central Park. Recommended for ages 13 and up. Tickets are $28 for adults, $24 for seniors, and $20 for students. Purchase online or call 850-684-0323.

FRIDAY, FEB. 16

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "SYLVIA"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 p.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

SATURDAY, FEB. 17

ACT4MYSTERY'S "KNOCK 'EM DEAD"
Samuel's Roadhouse, Crestview, 6 p.m.
Act4Mystery.com
Cost for dinner and show is $38. VIP packages available. Show info and tickets at the website, or call 850-862-2885.

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "SYLVIA"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 p.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

SUNDAY, FEB. 18

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "SYLVIA"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 2 p.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

THURSDAY, FEB. 22

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "SYLVIA"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 p.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

FRIDAY, FEB. 23

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "SYLVIA"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 p.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

SATURDAY, FEB. 24

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "SYLVIA"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7:30 p.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

SUNDAY, FEB. 25

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S "SYLVIA"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 2 p.m.
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

Oyster Love on the Gulf

If you love oysters like I do, any place that calls itself an oyster bar is going to get your attention. Having lived in New Orleans for 10 years, I have a pretty clear idea of what an oyster bar should look like. If you've been someplace like, say, Casamento's on Magazine Street, you know what I'm talking about. Lots of white tile, spotless, scrubbed-down, clean scent, and plenty of shellfish, specifically raw and fried. I don't miss New Orleans, but I do miss Casamento's.

I recently got a healthy shot of nostalgia when my family and I went to **Shunk Gulley Oyster Bar** in Santa Rosa Beach. It sits in a large two-story wooden building at the southern tip of County Highway 393. Directly gulfward is Ed Walline Park.

It was a weeknight, and they don't take reservations, so we tried to get there early ahead of the crowd. The place was half-full when we arrived—me, my wife, and our newly seven-year-old daughter Grace (The Tiny Diner). A guitarist was covering some '70s songs, and we were taken to our table amid a buzz of eating and talking diners.

We were eating on the second floor (there appears to be a downstairs area as well). The dining room is anchored by a bar on one wall, with tables of assorted sizes, plenty of windows, and free-standing space heaters (it was a cool night). There's white wood and shining tile, the ceilings are high, and TVs hang on most walls.

Our server (Rachael) brought us drinks and menus. The bill of fare offers appetizers and oysters, soup and salad, sandwiches, full entrees, and desserts. There's also a kids menu, complete with crayons.

Shunk Gulley offers raw oysters at $6 for six, and $8 for a dozen. I ordered a dozen, along with potatoes fried in duck fat. Other apps include garlic parmesan or bacon cheddar jalapeno oysters, fried crab claws, key lime rum shrimp, tuna dip, and tuna poke with guacamole.

The oysters were a picture (I took one), 12 beautiful mid-sized mollusks on a bed of crushed ice, with cocktail sauce, horseradish, lemon slice and crackers. I put the world on hold and dug in. They were chilled just right and tasted clean and briny. Neither my wife nor the TD care for them raw, so they enjoyed the fries.

I'd never had potatoes fried in duck fat (it's vaguely un-PC), but it makes for a richly caramelized and crunchy-textured potato. They're dressed with olive and truffle oil, sprinkled with sea salt, and come with garlic aioli dip, which had an intriguing, slightly fruity taste. We boxed about half of them for home, they're that filling.

For the main course, TD got popcorn shrimp with mac and cheese, my wife ordered fried chicken that had been brined in sweet tea, and I stayed the course with fried oysters (why switch gears?). Both entrees are served with regular fries.

I have had brined turkey before, but never chicken brined in sweet tea. Brining's principal function is to make the bird tender and juicy, but I was wondering about flavor. The chicken (white meat, boneless), was crackling crisp on the outside (and hand-scorching hot, so either use a fork or be patient if you prefer finger food), very tender and juicy inside.

As for tea flavor, there may have been a slight herbal touch there, just a hint. Still, mission accomplished. Like the chicken, my oysters (another dozen) were likewise crispy hot, with a mound of thin and crunchy fries, and cocktail sauce. I finished the oysters, but the fries (with my wife's and the leftover duck fries) were boxed.

Other main course choices include shrimp and crab bisque, house, wedge or Caesar salads, shrimp and oyster po'boys, fried fish sandwich, cheeseburger, fried fish or shrimp basket, beef filet, and crab cakes. You can make a meal of apps, soup and salad, or just sit back and keep ordering those $8-a-dozen oysters.

Desserts deserve planning ahead. There's key lime pie, beignets with white chocolate ganache, a grownup rum beverage called the Bushwhacker, and Mac's Pie. We ordered the latter, a house favorite, according to Rachael. The pie (large enough to share) is vanilla-laced cream cheese and white chocolate mousse, topped with whipped cream, strawberries and blueberries, on a flaky bottom crust. TD stuck mostly to the berries and cream, leaving the rest more or less mine. Vanilla lovers, rejoice. It's rich but actually rather light. It's picture pretty, too.

SHUNK GULLEY OYSTER BAR

1875 South County Highway 393
Santa Rosa Beach
850-622-2733

Hours: Open daily for lunch and dinner, 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

Reservations: Not accepted.

Children's Menu: Yes

Dress: Casual

Get your raw oyster craving satisfied at Shunk Gulley, where they're eight bucks a dozen, all the time. They cook them, too, along with fried chicken, shrimp, Gulf fish, bisque, even a cheeseburger and filet. Beautiful dining area and bar across the street from the beach access on the Gulf. Be sure to try the potatoes fried in duck fat, and save room for Mac's Pie. Open daily, full bar, $6-34.

Music, Chocolate-Covered Strawberries and More – A Valentine's Special Roundup

By Samantha Lambert

According to History.com, people in America began exchanging valentines that were handmade in the early 1700s. The "Mother of the Valentine" Esther Howland began creating and selling the first mass-produced valentines in the 1840s. The Greeting Card Association says Valentine's Day is the second most popular card-sending event in the United States after Christmas. Besides cards, chocolate and flowers, going out to dinner is a particularly popular way to celebrate.

Many local restaurants are offering Valentine's Day specials this year. Magnolia Grill is proud to present a special event on Sunday, **Feb. 11.** "It's the Music of Love" will take you back to the era of elegant nightclubs of the 1930s and the familiar music of love.

"It's the Music of Love" will feature singing sensation Kara Bishop and the David Ott Trio for an evening of dinner and dancing. This event is reservation only, with doors opening at 5 p.m. and dinner at 5:30. Magnolia Grill is located at 157 Brooks Street NE in Fort Walton Beach. For more information and reservations, call 850-302-0266.

Clemenza's at Uptown Station in Fort Walton Beach offers a Valentine's Day cooking class from 6 to 8:30 p.m. **Feb. 14.** Participants will prepare lobster and steak, along with prosecco, chocolate, and lots of love. The cooking class is $65 per person, and reservations must be made ahead of time. Call 850-243-0707.

Taste Tapas and Wine Bar will offer the "Perfect Pairs Valentines Dinner" on **Feb. 14** from 3 to 10 p.m. This is a five-course wine dinner with a choice of two entrees, dessert, and perfectly paired wine with each course. There will be live music from Beachcomber Music Awards Hall of Famer Joe Fingas beginning at 5 p.m. Taste is located at 196 Miracle Strip Parkway SE in Downtown Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-226-7417 for reservations.

For the entire month of February, The Melting Pot in Destin will sell you a box of their signature chocolate-covered strawberries for $15. Orders must be placed 24 hours in advance—call 850-269-2227. On **Feb. 14,** the Melting Pot serves up a four-course dinner created with exclusive items available for one night only. The menu can be found online at **TheMeltingPot.com,** and reservations are required. The Melting Pot is located at 11394 U.S. 98 W in Destin.

Giovanni's One89 Italian Restaurant in Fort Walton Beach is planning a six-course special menu dinner on Valentine's Day. Each couple will receive a complementary rose and chocolate-covered strawberries. There will be live entertainment with 2017 Beachcomber Music Award winner for Best New Artist Mari Gleason. Reservations are highly recommended. Giovanni's One89 is located at 189 Brooks Street. Call 850-664-0035.

Editor's Note: *These are the recommendations of our writer and no compensation was provided to* Beachcomber *by the restaurants mentioned here. However, we would love it if any and all of these places would advertise heavily in our magazine.*

The David Ott Trio joins in the Valentine's festivities at Magnolia Grill in Downtown Fort Walton Beach Sunday, Feb. 11.

For the First Time Ever, Food Truck and Craft Beer Festival Rolls into Panama City Beach

Food Truck Festivals of America is bringing the first-ever ***Panama City Beach Food Truck & Craft Beer Festival*** Saturday, **Feb. 17,** from noon to 5 p.m.

While some of Florida's most popular food trucks dish out fan favorites, craft ales and beers will be available for sale. There will also be live music, lawn games, and an artisan market where local artists will showcase their work. Food Truck Festivals of America is pleased to offer FREE admission to first responders—police, fire, and EMTs.

"The least we can do for all they do for us," says **Anne-Marie Aigner,** founder of Food Truck Festivals of America. "We salute them."

Over two-dozen food trucks will serve up everything from fall-off-the-bone BBQ to juicy prime rib, gooey mac and cheese, authentic Caribbean, savory cupcakes, and much more. To wash it all down, attendees can choose from 50-plus local, regional and national craft beers.

For foodies that want a little more out of their festival experience, VIP tickets are available for $25 in advance online ($30 at the gate). VIPs are allowed early access to the festival, no lines, a FREE dessert from a designated VIP food truck, unlimited bottled water throughout the event, and $1 off any craft beer throughout the festival.

General admission tickets are $5 online at **FoodTruckFestivalsOfAmerica.com** or $10 at the gate. Children 12 and under are admitted at no cost.

- Bethany DaSilva

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Bartender of the Issue — Mike Pelletier

Doc's Oyster Bar, Valparaiso

Mike Pelletier may be a Chicago native, but he's called Niceville home for the last 17 years and has no intention of returning to the Midwest ("No ma'am, not at all!").

Chicago's loss is our gain. When he's not kayaking, fishing or hanging out at the beach, Mike is cooking and tending bar at Doc's Oyster Bar & Grill on Tom's Bayou. He started as a busser at Compass Rose, which is next door to Doc's, and worked his way up into the kitchen. He's been cooking for about seven years now, with stints in various local restaurants, but Doc's is where his heart is.

According to Mike, the best part about bartending is "being able to interact with everybody and meet everybody in town. We got a lot of nice regulars." There is always a military lunchtime crowd, with folks from all over the country and world, plus a surprising number of tourists. "They find us through Google and Yelp," he says. Mike reports that these thirsty folks favor the house Margarita ("We use our own mix.") and any beers by Fort Walton Beach's own Props Brewery.

One thing Mike wants to make sure everybody knows is that there is plenty of parking. When you're driving by, it can look full, but he points out Doc's has extra parking behind Compass Rose. "Same owner, same everything!"

- Alita Feek

Restaurant Guide

If your favorite restaurant isn't listed here, let us know by dropping an email to us at **chris@beachcomberdestin.com!**

AMERICAN

CHARLIE'S BURGER BAR Destin's first true burger bar has it all - Burgers, Bourbon and Beer! Charlie's has a selection of 17 different burgers from lamb, Black Angus, wild boar, bison, even Ostrich. If you don't want one of the already built burgers, make your own. Select the bun you would like, than the protein, pick your cheese and your sides. The soon to be famous deep fried pickles are to die for. Or live a little and go for Charlie's Funky Fries topped with different types of cheeses. Happy hour daily from 3-6 p.m. Open at 3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. $3-32, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex, 850-424-7695. **www.CharliesBurgerBar.com.**

ASIAN

LIN'S ASIAN CUISINE Enjoy carefully prepared and artfully served Chinese and Southeast Asian dishes in a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere. Chicken, beef, pork, duck, fish and shellfish are cooked to suit most tastes, and Lin's offers your favorites—General Tso's chicken, Mongolian beef, pad thai, lo mein and kung pao, among many others. Beer and wine. $2-15. 130 Scenic Gulf Dr. #5B, Miramar Beach, 850-424-5888.

BAKERIES

CAKEMASTER'S BAKERY II Quality baked goods since 1971, made from scratch on the premises by a fourth generation baker. Decorated cakes for all occasions. New Sweet Expressions cake collection. Breakfast pastries—Danish (cheese, pecan, fruit), assorted coffee cakes, cinnamon rolls, crumb cake, strudel, bienstich, pecan crispies. Delicious delights—brownies, ragulah, cream fingers, biscotti, cookies (wedding, sugar, chocolate chip, raisin, fruit bars, holiday) and more. Refrigerated desserts—éclairs, Boston cream pie, cheesecake, black forest cake, Italian rum cake, Napoleons, French creampuffs and more. Come on by and see us. 105 Beach Drive Suite A-3, Fort Walton Beach (behind Pizza Hut on Racetrack Road), 850-862-4911. Closed Mondays.

BARBEQUE

LILLIE'S Q Award-winning on the national level barbecue restaurant located at 9848 Hwy. 98 W., Miramar Beach, approximately seven miles east of the Mid Bay Bridge. We offer barbecue that represents all areas of the U.S., such as pulled pork, baby back ribs, smoked chicken breast and beef tri-tip (sliced sirloin). All meat products are slow smoked using natural wood and lump charcoal. Seven sauce choices with delicious side orders and the best banana pudding in the Panhandle. We offer a wrap around porch. No inside seating. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Call ahead orders welcomed! 850-654-3911.

BREAKFAST & MORE

ASIAGO'S SKILLET There's no place like it. Open daily from midnight till noon. Try your hand at our one-of-a-kind Crab Cake Benny, mouth watering Bananas Foster French Toast or our classic American Breakfast. We've got something for everyone. Plus, don't miss out on our Build Your Own Bloody Mary Bar, complete with infused vodkas, every weekend. Truly breakfast at its best. 110 Amberjack Drive, Okaloosa Island, 850-586-7998. New location in Destin! 300 Harbor Blvd., 850-424-4160. **www.facebook.com/asiago.skillet**.

BLUE COLLAR CAFE Made to order breakfast and lunch served all day. House made bagels. Full coffee bar with Maas coffee and espresso roasted at the cafe. Home of the famous BOB (breakfast on a bagel) and New York style lox and house-mixed cream cheese. Salads and sides, homemade scones and sweets. Open Mon.-Fri., 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. 104 Hollywood Blvd. SW, Fort Walton Beach.

CAMILLE'S CAFE Start your day with coffee and breakfast. We feature fluffy eggs, cinnamon rolls, apple pie muffins, fresh juice and smoothies. For lunch, enjoy our fresh caught tuna salad on an Asiago cheese bagel, Sriracha turkey sandwich or Mediterranean chicken salad sandwich. Plus all day Bloody Marys, mimosas, beer, and daiquiris made with fresh-squeezed juice. Join our party! 2931 Scenic Highway 98, Destin, 850-337-8860.

THE LOCAL MARKET Open 7 a.m.-3 p.m. daily. Fresh pressed juices, coffee, breakfast, gourmet sandwiches, homemade ice cream and more. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-460-8979.

THE PANCAKERY Serving breakfast and lunch daily from 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. Featuring build your own pancakes and omelettes! Waffles, French Toast, crepes, benedicts, bananas foster and all traditional breakfast items. Also, lunch menu includes sandwiches, burgers, salads, wraps, and loaded potatoes. Now serving bloody marys, mimosas and cold beer. 960 Hwy 98 East, Suite 104, Destin. 850-269-0791.

TOMMY MATTONIE'S Looking for upscale breakfast options? We offer 13 different Eggs Benedicts and numerous specialty waffles. Trip Advisor honored us with a Certificate of Excellence for 2015. Our list of New Orleans style po-boys for lunch is just as extensive as the Eggs Benedict selections. We serve only local fresh bay shrimp and offer some of the best slow smoked BBQ in FWB. We also serve salads, Floribbean tacos, soups and daily specials. Check Facebook for our daily specials. Open 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day except Mondays. Located at 723 Eglin Parkway NE in FWB near the Shalimar Bridge. 850-862-0895. **www.tommymattonies.com.**

BURGERS

CHARLIE'S BURGER BAR Burgers, bourbon and beer. Pick from 18 burgers or build your own. Over 50 beers and bourbons, funky French fries, milk shakes for all ages. Located at 2 Harbor Blvd. in HarborWalk Village's Crab Island Cantina Complex, Destin, 850-424-7695.

CASUAL DINING

HOG'S BREATH CAFE A local favorite located in the heart of Destin, Hog's Breath offers a varied menu selection, from seafood tacos to BBQ platters. Sit inside or enjoy the beautiful Emerald Coast weather, all while listening to live local entertainment. Fun for the entire family. Open daily, 11 a.m. until 2 a.m. 541 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-5991. "Hog's Breath is better than no breath at all!" **www.hogsbreath.com/destin.**

COFFEE SHOPS

MAAS COFFEE ROASTERS Fresh roasted beans of origin, roasted in different profiles. Specialty coffee roasters for 10 years. "Once you go Maas, you'll never go 'Bucks!" Fresh made pastries and

Restaurant Guide

bagels, FREE WiFi. Open Mon.-Sat., 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 150 Miracle Strip Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, across from the Indian Temple Mound Museum. 850-585-0496.

CONTEMPORARY

LOUIS LOUIS Louis Louis is another dining hit. This "sister" restaurant to the famous Red Bar offers a short but all-star menu of fish, chicken, pork, crab cakes and pasta entrees, served in fat portions by a friendly staff. Do whatever you have to do, but don't skip dessert. Colorful décor, comfy tables, full bar, $5-25. 35 Mussett Bayou Rd., Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-1500.

DINNER & A SHOW

REDD'S FUELING STATION a/k/a Redd's Pub N Song, specializes in great food and music. The menu is simple but delicious, including slow cooked beef brisket, sweet and spicy babybacks and fried green tomato BLTs. **Redd the Singing Bartender** sings as she bartends, hosts and serves on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays—customers can participate by requesting songs for tips. Redd offers over 350 songs to choose from. Wednesday is Open Mic Night, the longest running open mic on 30A with musicians of all levels and ages welcome. We have the sound system, you bring your instrument and your talent. Friday nights are live music. Redd likes to promote local musicians and several popular local bands had their first gigs here, including the Luke Langford Band and Mose Wilson and the Delta Twang. Dinner reservations for four or more are highly recommended. Located at 2320 West County Highway 30A in Blue Mountain Beach. Call 850-325-0252 for information and reservations. Visit **www.reddsfuel.com** and find **Redd's Pub N Song** on Facebook.

ECLECTIC

CAFÉ THIRTY-A Cafe Thirty-A has been here a while. Finding out why can be a delicious experience. A nightly-changing menu offers steaks, chicken, pork, lamb, and local seafood elegantly prepared with imaginative sauces and sides, courteously served in a beautiful beach-house atmosphere. Lobster bisque, stone crab claws, seasonal fish and shellfish, and wood oven-baked pizzas. Full bar. $8-36. 3899 E. Scenic Highway 30-A, Seagrove Beach, 850-231-2166.

THE RED BAR The place to go—and say you went—in Grayton Beach. The Red Bar offers breakfast, lunch and dinner, with a short but expertly prepared menu of sandwiches, soup and salads for lunch, chicken, local fish, pasta and crab cakes for dinner. The apple dumpling will haunt you, in a good way. Live music, and more local color than you'll know what to do with. Full bar, $4-21. 70 Hotz Avenue, Grayton Beach, 850-231-1008. **www.theredbar.com.**

VIN'TIJ Wine boutique and bistro. Wonderful food, service and a.m.sphere. Great approach to wine service offering Flight or tasters of unique varietals. Open daily for lunch or dinner plus a well stocked retail wine shop. $5-19, 10859 Emerald Coast Pkwy, Destin, 650-9820.

GERMAN/AMERICAN

FOKKERS PUB German sausages and homemade schnitzels go great with German beer! Brick oven pizza, grilled or fried wings, burgers, sandwiches and salad bar – there's something for everyone! Live music Wednesdays and Fridays. Located at 215 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE Unit #1 in Downtown Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-6666.

HEALTHY DINING

GEORGE'S AT ALYS BEACH Established in 2008, George's has offered regional coastal fare infused with global flavors to the quaint town of Alys Beach. We craft all of our dishes using locally sourced organic produce and the freshest seafood available, and present each with a generous helping of love. Our dishes fall into two categories—Behave and Misbehave. The Behave section features organic, spa-inspired dishes, while the Misbehave side touts traditional beach fare like fried seafood baskets and po-boys. The menu is rounded out with a thoughtfully curated wine list and a selection of decadent desserts. Our charming beach cottage provides the perfect backdrop for a casual dinner with friends and family. Dine indoors in our airy yet cozy dining room, or soak in the beautiful Florida sunshine on our front deck or screened porches. Open 11 a..-3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. 30 Castle Harbour Dr., Panama City Beach, 850-641-0017, **georgesatalysbeach.net.**

ITALIAN

CIAO ITALIA BISTRO Dine inside or outside at Guglielmo Ianni's latest bistro. The big menu offers classic Italian appetizers like bruschetta, caprese and calamari, and a range of pasta, chicken, meat, fish and shellfish entrees—puttanesca, Bolognese, parmigiana, pescatore, and some house originals. Daily specials, family dining options, comfortable atmosphere and friendly service. Full bar. Open Monday through Saturday, 5-10 p.m. 985 U.S. 98 East, Suite F, Destin, 850-842-4677.

TUSCANY ITALIAN BISTRO Authentic Italian cuisine includes pasta, freshest seafood, tender veal and more. A true taste of Italy--beautiful Italian decor with handpainted murals. Live Entertainment by Eclipse (Don and Amanda), Special Happy Hour from 5 to 8 p.m. 36178 Emerald Coast Pkwy. Next to City Market in Destin. 850-650-2451.

LATIN / MEXICAN

BUD & ALLEY'S TACO BAR Shake the sand off your feet, choose a colorful table, and get ready to experience South of the Border favorites, Florida-style. Baja fish tacos, homemade guacamole, burritos, top shelf margaritas, and ice cold cerveza hit the spot for lunch or dinner. Open daily, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-4781. **BudAndAlleys.com.**

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA Traditional and not so traditional Mexican and Latin food, featuring snapper enchiladas, grouper tacos, and award-winning seafood chorizo gumbo. Great selection of seafood dishes and Black Angus steaks, and all are big portions so make sure you're hungry. Spacious dining area, multiple bars, even a fountain, plus the view of Destin Bridge and the East Pass. Full bar, wide choice of margaritas and beers, $4-28, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex. 850-424-7417. **www.CrabIslandCantina.com.**

LA COCINA MEXICAN GRILL & BAR Since 2009, La Cocina has served traditional Tex-Mex fare with a coastal twist in a fun, festive atmosphere. We prepare all of our dishes from scratch using the freshest ingredients available. La Cocina is nestled between Rosemary Beach and Alys Beach in Seacrest Beach. Menu highlights include Tacos de Camerones with grilled shrimp, shredded lettuce, habanero pickled onions and feta cheese; the Pollo Fundido with shredded

FRESH SEAFOOD?

One of the first questions people ask when they visit our area is

"How can we be sure we're getting fresh seafood?"

That's an excellent question. There is a good chance that the seafood you will be offered traveled farther than you did. In the state of Florida, even though we are surrounded by water, more than 90% of the seafood sold this year will be imported from other countries.

Throughout the United States, the huge majority of seafood is imported. Most of it is mislabeled. Frozen seafood is sold as "fresh" and imported seafood is sold as "local." According to Oceana, 93% of fish sold as red snapper is actually some other species. 57% of tuna sold at sushi bars throughout the country is not tuna. Most of the tilapia served in this country comes from Viet Nam and Thailand and much of it is farmed in waters with sewage run-off and the source of feed is pig feces.

Harbor Docks has been selling fish through its wholesale market since 1981. We sell to markets across the United States and Canada. We also sell to select restaurants along the Gulf Coast. Harbor Docks contracts with over 100 commercial boats to insure that we have an adequate supply of fresh fish.

We invite you to dine at our restaurants – Harbor Docks, in the heart of Destin, and Camille's, overlooking the Gulf in Crystal Beach. But we'd also encourage you to try any of the wonderful, independent, local restaurants in our area that are committed to serving Florida seafood. We know who they are, because we sell them their fish.

HARBOR DOCKS
SEAFOOD & COCKTAILS

Check our website to find out which restaurants sell certified Gulf-to-Table fish from Harbor Docks Seafood Market.

DESTIN, FL | 850.837.2506 | HARBORDOCKS.COM

Snapper and Tuna stats: http://oceana.org/en/news-media/publications/reports/oceana-study-reveals-seafood-fraud-nationwide
Imported seafood stat: http://www.fishwatch.gov/farmed_seafood/outside_the_us.htm
Tilapia/pig feces: http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-10-11/asian-seafood-raised-on-pig-feces-approved-for-u-s-consumers.html

chicken and sour cream (chimichanga style) topped with cheese; and the Lobster Quesadilla with lobster, crab, shrimp and cheese topped with chipotle aioli and fruit salsa. Saturdays and Sundays, enjoy $7 specialty cocktails during football season. Open 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. 10343 East CR-30A, Panama City Beach, 850-231-4021, **lacocina30a.net.**

LA PAZ offers just about anything you'd want from a Mexican-Southwestern kitchen, including tamales, tacos, fajitas, burritos, enchiladas and quesadillas, plus a thoughtfully prepared list of grilled local fish and shellfish and imaginative spins on classics. Daily dinner specials, full bar. $15-25. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-837-2247. **www.lapazdestin.com.**

PEPITO'S MEXICAN GRILL An enormous menu, plenty of room, and a friendly staff make Pepito's a good bet for a Mexican snack or feast. Traditional and unusual fare includes carnitas, enchiladas, fajitas, vegetarian dishes, steaks and seafood specialties. $4-19. 757 Harbor Blvd, Destin, 650-7734. Additional locations in Bluewater Bay and Fort Walton Beach. **www.mypepitos.com**.

PIZZA & PASTA

BUD & ALLEY'S PIZZA BAR + TRATTORIA Savor artisan cheese, fresh salad, antipasto dishes, homemade soups, seasonal vegetables, hearty pastas and wood-fired pizza. Experience these authentic flavors in the courtyard, fireside at the bar, or on the veranda overlooking the Gulf. Open daily for lunch and dinner, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-3113. **BudAndAlleysPizzaBar.com.**

MELLOW MUSHROOM PIZZA BAKERY Widely, wildly assorted menu of stone baked pizzas, hoagies, calzones, salads, and specialty items. Pizzas traditional and exotic include pesto, jerk chicken, gourmet white, and Magical Mystery Tour. Colorful psychedelic décor and friendly service. $4-25. 960 Hwy 98E, Sunsations Plaza, Destin, 650-6420.

SEAFOOD

THE BACK PORCH Experience open air dining with the best view of the Gulf of Mexico. Serving grouper, oysters, fried crab claws and our famous char-grilled amberjack. Lunch and dinner. Open daily from 11 a.m. 1740 Old Highway 98 East, Destin. On U.S. 98 across from the Track, turn at the Hampton Inn, drive about 1/4 mile, and you'll find us on the right side. **www.theback-porch.com.** 850-837-2022.

CAPT. DAVE'S ON THE GULF A tradition since 1977, Capt. Dave's is a go-to place for the kind of seafood that made this area famous. A time-tested selection of fried, grilled, and broiled fish, shellfish, steaks and chicken, with house and seasonal specialties. Full bar. $5-25. 3796 Scenic Hwy 98, Destin, 850-837-2627.

DEWEY DESTIN'S HARBORSIDE RESTAURANT The classics, done right. Shrimp, crab, tuna, grouper, scallops, oysters and some land-based items, served fried, grilled, or steamed in most conceivable combinations. Family-friendly, accommodating staff. Nightly specials, full bar. Open daily at 11 a.m. 202 Harbor Boulevard, Destin, 850-837-7525.

DEWEY DESTIN'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT Get fed with the real locals on Calhoun. Dine inside or out on the water, choosing from grilled and fried local fish and shellfish. Oysters, scallops, shrimp, crab, yellowfin and daily catch served in baskets, on platters or on sandwiches with gumbo, apps and salads that all go well with the laid-back setting. Beer and wine. Open daily at 11 a.m. 9 Calhoun Avenue, Destin, 850-837-7575.

GRANDE VISTA BAR & GRILL Located in the Emerald Grande. Open daily 7 a.m.-9 p.m. for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Grande Vista Bar & Grill has delicious local seafood, signature sandwiches and mouth-watering burgers. Enjoy casual or business lunch inside or poolside overlooking the Destin Harbor. Enjoy special drink prices inside or outside at our poolside bar. The view from our pool deck is simply breathtaking. Half-priced drinks daily, 4-6 p.m. 10 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8100 x1550. **info@emeraldgrande.com.**

HARBOR DOCKS on the historic Destin Harbor has been serving simply prepared Gulf to table seafood from its own market since 1979. Offering hearty breakfasts, a lunch menu featuring blue plate specials alongside authentic Thai dishes, and the area's best sushi by world famous Chef Yoshie Eddings. In addition to traditional Gulf seafood dishes, there is something for everyone. 538 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-2506. **harbordocks.com.**

HARRY T'S LIGHTHOUSE Located in HarborWalk Village right on the beautiful Destin Harbor, Harry T's has something for all ages! With entrees ranging from fresh local seafood to our gourmet hamburgers, there's something for everyone! Voted Best Place to Watch the Sunset four years in a row, our outside deck offers an unparalleled view of the Destin Harbor. Mega Happy Hour Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. 46 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-654-4800. **info@harryts.co.**

LOCAL CATCH has established itself as a Hot Spot for fresh coastal cuisine with superior customer service. Dine in daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and enjoy Happy Hour Mon.-Fri., 3-5 p.m. Join us every Sunday for live music from 3 to 7 p.m. 3711 West Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-2022. **www.localcatch30a.com.**

OLD BAY STEAMER Wide variety of fresh steamed seafood served in every imaginable combination. Choose from crab, shrimp, lobster, oysters, clams, mussels, and fresh catch of the day. Pasta and steak/seafood pairings also offered. Friendly, efficient service. Open daily for dinner, with full bar. $4-27, 102 Santa Rosa Blvd., Okaloosa Island, 664-2795.

ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK Located on the water. The Crab Shack serves crab, shrimp, oysters, mussels, scallops and assorted local fish in an informal and family-friendly atmosphere. Crab steamer buckets, fried seafood baskets, sandwiches and po-boys, and some land-based items. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Daily specials, inside and outside dining. Full bar. $3-45. 104 Miracle Strip Pkwy., Fort Walton Beach. 850-664-0345.

POMPANO JOE'S Come on in for some fun and fresh seafood with a very exciting flavor. Try our famous reggae rolls and our garlic crusted grouper! Lunch and dinner. Open daily from 11 a.m. 2237 Scenic Gulf Highway, Destin. Take Holiday Road South, turn right on scenic Hwy. 98, drive down about two blocks, and you'll find us on the left side. **www.pompano-joes.com**. 850-837-2224.

SALTWATER GRILL We provide a relaxing, casual atmosphere designed to heighten the enjoyment of our customers' dining experience. Most of our tables have entertaining views of a 25,000-gallon aquarium filled with exotic fish. Become mesmerized by the soothing sounds of **Michael Rorah,** our singing pianist, who plays Tuesday through Saturday evenings. Lobsters available for viewing and choosing at the front of the restaurant. Open 4-10 p.m. 1100 Hutchinson Blvd., Panama City Beach, 850-230-2739, **saltwatergrillpcb.com.**

STINKY'S FISH CAMP Seafood is king at this informal Santa Rosa Beach eatery. Oysters "all ways," crawfish pie, catfish or frog legs meuniere, and gumbo are just a few of the Louisiana-inspired dishes. Service is friendly and attentive. Open daily 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Serving brunch on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Beer, wine and live music at Stinky's Bait Shack from 6 to 9 p.m. 5960 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-3053.

STEAKS

MCGUIRE'S IRISH PUB OF DESTIN One of America's Great Steak Houses. Feasting, Imbibery and Debauchery. We are known for great food, exceptional service, our own craft brewed beers, and fun live entertainment. Open LATE, from 11 a.m. to 1:45 a.m. seven days a week. 33 U.S. 98, Destin, 850-650-0000, **www.mcguiresirishpub.com.**

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE serves the finest aged, corn-fed USDA Prime beef. Broiled in a trademark 1,800° broiler and served on a plate heated to 500 degrees, your steak is presented sizzling hot at your table. Happy hour

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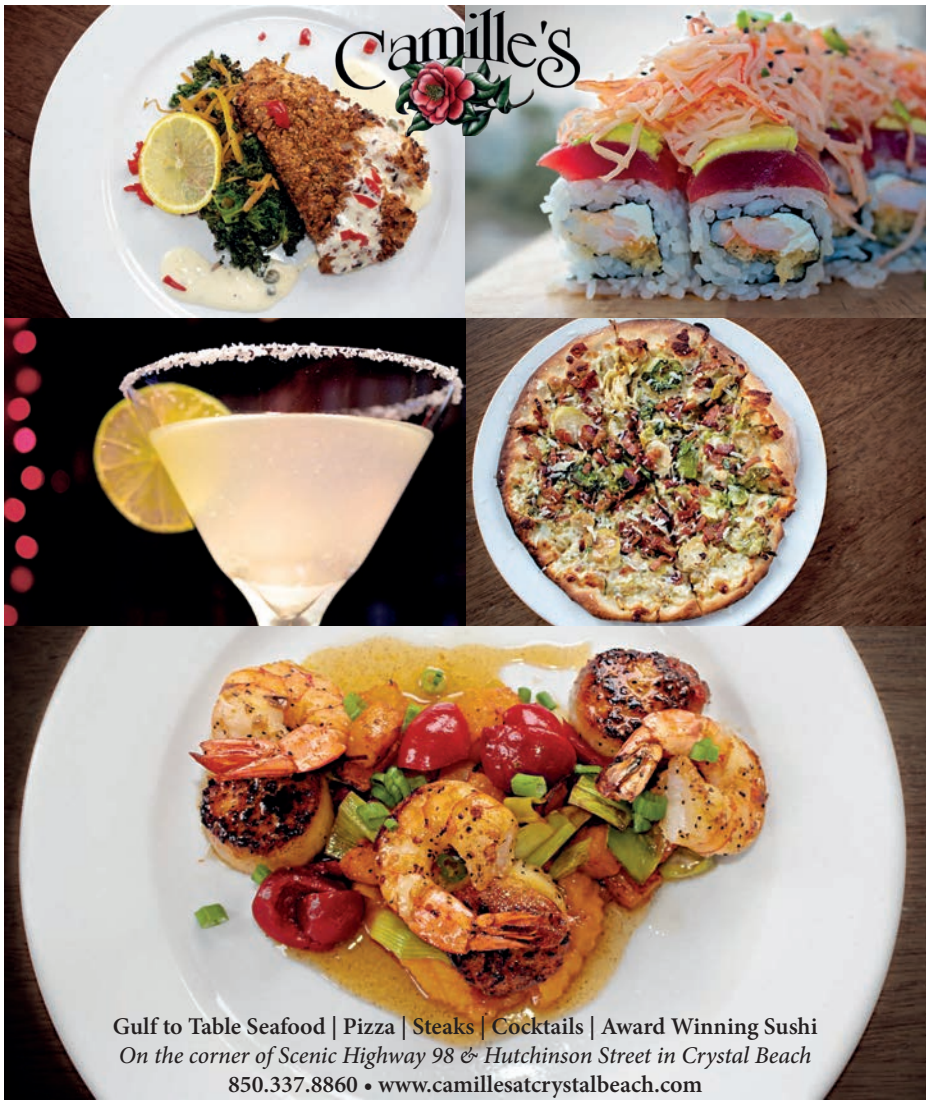
Building Homes to Fit Most Any Budget



daily from 5 to 7 p.m. in any of our three bars, including the new East Bar. We boast an array of private event spaces, our own private billiard room, valet parking, and live entertainment five nights a week from *Billboard*-charting recording artist Michael J Thomas (upon availability). Open seven days a week at 5 p.m. For reservations, call 850-837-RUTH (7884) or visit **www.RuthsChrisDestin.com.**

SALTWATER GRILL Open 4-10 p.m. 1100 Hutchinson Blvd., Panama City Beach, 850-230-2739, **saltwatergrillpcb.com.**

SUSHI

JACKACUDAS SEAFOOD & SUSHI is a locally-owned seafood and sushi restaurant overlooking the historic Destin Harbor. The name derives from a famous fishing hole located 34 miles southwest of the Destin Harbor at 30'04.250N and 87'02.125W. Specializing in fresh, locally sourced seafood and products to provide our guests with classic Gulf Coast seafood dishes with New South culinary preparation. Open daily, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. 56 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-424-3507. **www.jackacudas.com.**

OSAKA JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE AND SUSHI BAR 34745 Emerald Coast Pkwy, Destin, 650-4688.

TAPAS AND WINE

LA CREMA TAPAS AND CHOCOLATE Spanish-inspired tapas restaurant featuring unique tapas and Spanish wines. The European vibe provides a relaxing atmosphere where we encourage guests to share dishes, converse and enjoy Rosemary Beach living. Open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. 38 Main St., Rosemary Beach, 850-624-7282, **lacrematapas.com.**

WATERFRONT DINING

BUD & ALLEY'S WATERFRONT RESTAURANT A pioneer of the fish- and farm-to-table movement, with an award-winning menu featuring Gulf Coast classics paired with Southern-style cuisine. The daily Sunset Celebration ritual on the Rooftop Deck overlooking the Gulf has been a tradition for more than 30 years. Open daily for breakfast (8-11 a.m.), lunch (11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.) and dinner (from 5 p.m.). Hours may vary. 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-5900. **BudAndAlleys.com.**

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA Traditional and not so traditional Mexican and Latin food, featuring snapper enchiladas, grouper tacos, and award-winning seafood chorizo gumbo. Great selection of seafood dishes and Black Angus steaks, and all are big portions so make sure you're hungry. Spacious dining area, multiple bars, even a fountain, plus the view of Destin Bridge and the East Pass. Full bar, wide choice of margaritas and beers, $4-28, HarborWalk Village, Destin, inside the Crab Island Cantina Complex. 850-424-7417. **www.CrabIslandCantina.com.**

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE From a volcano flowing with Margaritas to suspended airplanes, Margaritaville is more than a restaurant; it's a state of mind. Open daily, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Five O'Clock Somewhere celebration Mon.-Thu., 4-7 p.m. 76 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-460-7700. **www.margaritavilledestin.com.**

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S DESTIN is located next to the Mid Bay Bridge and Legendary Marine on the Choctawhatchee Bay in beautiful Destin, Florida. A little off the beaten path, but we like a little more room to breathe. Specializing in the BEST Burgers in Paradise, Southern Favorites and Lucy's own GUMBO LOVE! Family friendly! Come by boat, anchor and wade in or call for our boat shuttle. Open daily at 11 a.m. Live music nightly. Separate allergy menu. Beach for the kids to play, Fountain of Youth, LuLu's Gift Shop. 850-710-LULU (5858). **www.lulubuffett.com/destin.**

VUE ON 30A showcases one of the best views for dining in all of South Walton. Open to the public and serving lunch, dinner, happy hour and Sunday brunch. Named "Best Restaurant of 2014" by *The Beachcomber,* Vue on 30a offers the ultimate dining experience. Open for Sunday brunch, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; lunch Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; happy hour Tue.-Sat., 3-6 p.m.; dinner Tue.-Sat., 4:30-8:30 p.m. Two for one entrée specials Wed.-Sat., 4:30-6 p.m. 4801 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2305. **www.Vueon30a.com.**

WINE BARS

45 CENTRAL WINE BAR Tucked away in Seaside's bustling Central Square, 45 Central offers a calm and relaxing atmosphere perfect for unwinding after a busy vacation day or a long day at work. Over 45 different wines available by the glass, bottle or case. Exclusive vintages sold by the glass using Coravin Wine Technology. Small plates of seasonal and regional pairings created daily by award-winning chef and owner **Jim Shirley**. Brunch daily, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Check us out online for wine classes, events and specials at **fortyfivecentral.com**. 45 Central Square, Seaside, 850-231-4545. Open 2 p.m.-midnight seven days a week.

Where to Spend Your Happy Hours in Beachcomberland

If your bar isn't listed here, you need to email **chris@beachcomberdestin.com** *immediately!*

CAMILLE'S AT CRYSTAL BEACH
2931 Scenic Highway 98
Destin
850-337-8860
When: 3-5 p.m. daily.
Drink Specials: Lots, including Camille's Signature Sangria. Plus a stunning view of the Gulf.

CRAB ISLAND CANTINA
HarborWalk Village
Destin
850-424-7417
When: Everyday from 3 to 6 p.m.
Drink Specials: $4 house margaritas, $3 well drinks and house wine, $3 Corona, Corona Light, Bud Light and Miller Lite.

FISHHEADS
HarborWalk Village
Destin
When: 6-8 p.m. daily.
Drink Specials: $1 off premium drafts and Drink of the Day.

FOKKER'S PUB
215 Miracle Strip Parkway SE Unit #1
Fort Walton Beach
850-244-6666
When: 3-7 p.m. daily; 3 p.m.-close Tuesdays.
Drink Specials: Everything half price except Bushwhackers and high end bourbons.

45 CENTRAL WINE BAR
45 Central Square
Seaside
850-231-4545
fortyfivecentral.com
When: 4-6 p.m. daily. Paella nights Wednesdays and Fridays.
Drink Specials: Half off wine by the glass, $1 off beer.

GRANDE VISTA
Emerald Grande, HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-337-8100, ext. 1550
When: 4-6 p.m. daily.
Drink Specials: All drinks half off (except bottles of wine and Drink Special of the Day), plus specially priced apps.

HARRY T'S
HarborWalk Village
Destin
850-654-4800

Original art by Angie Boling.

When: Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-7 p.m.—downstairs bar only.
Drink Specials: Half off drinks.

HOG'S BREATH SALOON
541 Harbor Blvd.
Destin
850-837-5991
When: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. and 10 p.m. to close, Mon.-Fri.
Drink Specials: Half off wells and calls, $1 Bud Light draft, $1 off domestic beer and wines.

JACKACUDAS
HarborWalk Village
Destin
850-424-3507
When: Monday-Friday, 3-6 p.m. Sushi bar and bar area only. Bonzai Wednesdays, 6 p.m.-close with half price sake, house wine, apps and sushi rolls.
Drink Specials: Half-price hot sake carafes, house wine pours, select draft beers and select apps, plus $5 California rolls, spicy krab rolls and crunch salmon rolls.

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE
HarborWalk Village
Destin
850-460-7700
When: Monday-Friday, 10 p.m.-close.
Drink Specials: $3 14-ounce Bud Light or Landshark draft, $4 Barefoot cabernet and chardonnay, $5 "Who's to Blame" margaritas and "5 O'Clock Somewhere" cocktails.

LA PAZ
950 Gulf Shore Drive
Destin
850-837-2247
When: 4-6 p.m. daily.
Drink Specials: $5 top shelf Margaritas, FREE chips and salsa.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S
4607 Legendary Marina Drive
Destin
850-710-LULU (5858)
When: Monday-Friday, 3-6 p.m.
Drink Specials: $3 wells, $2 off house wine by the glass, draft $1 off each glass and $3 off each pitcher, $5 homeport margarita on the rocks, $6 frozen homeport margaritas and frozen daiquiris.

SAMMY'S
1224 Santa Rosa Blvd.
Fort Walton Beach
When: Early happy hour, 1-6 p.m. Late night happy hour, 2-4 a.m. Never a cover charge for escorted women, military, or restaurant-hotel-bar employees.
Drink Specials: Early happy hour—two for $5 well drinks, $10 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge. Late night happy hour—two for $6 well drinks, $12 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge after 3 a.m.

Horrorscopes

AQUARIUS
JAN. 21 - FEB. 19

You've been reaching for bigger and better things for a long time now. Well, you can climb an old 16-foot aluminum ladder and stand on that little platform on your tippy toes and reach your fingertips to the sky. There'll be nothing there, and you'll be lucky not to fall and break your hip.

PISCES
FEB. 20 - MAR. 20

Your life has recently seemed like a non-stop symphony of clanging cymbals and those gong-type things. You wish it was tinnitus but it's not. It's just the third movement in a bizarre symphony—allegro in sonata form—played by very poor musicians.

ARIES
MAR. 21 - APR. 20

You've heard the adage "There's nothing to fear but fear itself"? What a joke. There are things to be afraid of that you've never even imagined. Be fearful of everything. You can't possibly be too cautious. Stay inside!

TAURUS
APR. 21 - MAY 21

Your lack of self-confidence is a sign of intelligence. You'd be insane to have positive thoughts regarding anything of importance. Do not try any new projects! Do everything possible to extricate yourself from previous commitments. It's better to stay away from new projects than to watch them fail miserably.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

You tend to be all talk and no action. That's good, because talk is cheap and actions can be very expensive. Don't do anything! Just stay put! Spinning tall tales and coming up with shabby dreams might be your forte. Leave it at that. Risking failure is no fun when the risks are overwhelming.

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 22

If you think a positive approach to business, with your "take no prisoners" attitude, will work—well, good luck with that. It would be time to seek advice from others, but remember—you don't like advice. The lackluster crowd you hang out with won't have valuable advice anyway.

LEO
JULY 23 - AUG. 23

You would like to exercise some creative ideas in both business and life. But you aren't creative. There's nothing you can come up with that hasn't been done before.

And you can bet it was done better than you could ever imagine. Stay close to home. Maybe that will work for you.

VIRGO
AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23

So you wish you were a Libra. Well, get in line. Unfortunately, you had no control over choosing your birthday or your parents. And therein lies so many of your current problems. Try to stand tall and breath deeply—there's little else you can do.

LIBRA
SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23

Once again, the cream rises to the top. You're used to that. It will be a struggle to determine which is the most successful area of your life. Business, family, friends, athletics... everything clicks. It'll be hard to watch the Winter Olympics knowing that you could have competed and possibly settled the North Korea dispute in your time off from competing in the Giant Slalom.

SCORPIO
OCT. 24 - NOV. 22

Oh, you wish you were a Libra also. Join the club. You just missed because your parents were a little late. You lost out on so many opportunities! If you have any Libra friends, be especially nice to them. Perhaps their successes will leave some crumbs in your path.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV. 23 - DEC. 21

The devil is in the details, which poses problems for you since your tendency is to overlook the small stuff. The obstacles you now face cannot be described as "small stuff." They are likely to be so overwhelming that no one will blame you for another failure on your part.

CAPRICORN
DEC. 22 - JAN. 20

Be thankful you're stuck behind a desk. Keep shuffling papers... moving them from one side of your desk to the other. Pray that no one catches on to what you've been doing for years now. The company you work for is so inept, there's a good chance you'll never be caught as long as you stay quiet.

Forget Romance, Celebrate Valentine's Day Like a Child

By Marilu Morgan

When I was growing up, my mother was supporting four children with the salary of a starving artist (despite what you might think, rich artists are few and far between—living ones, anyway). What we didn't have in money for candy and store-bought Valentine's Day cards, we made up for in enthusiasm and craft projects, and Valentine's Day was our time to shine.

Creating an intricately detailed Valentine's Day mailbox out of a cardboard box, construction paper hearts, and magazine collaged flowers that blew our classmates' designs out of the water was the highlight of our winter. We spent hours creating handmade Valentine's Day cards for our friends complete with watercolor paintings and personalized poetry.

For breakfast, my mom cut our pancakes into heart shapes to start the day off on a festive note. At school, we enjoyed showing off our crafty creations, exchanging cards, and eating candy and cupcakes with our friends (what a great Wednesday).

When the school bus dropped us off in the afternoon, we'd be greeted by my enthusiastic mother waving our first clues for our annual "Heart Hunt," a scavenger hunt aptly named for the heart-shaped hints.

Now, I must tell you that my mother's handwriting and spelling couldn't get much worse, so not only did we have to solve the clues, we had to decipher them first. How that scatterbrained woman kept four separate scavenger hunts straight, I have no idea.

The prizes at the end of the hunt were poor people prizes—things we needed, like shampoo, a new toothbrush, or our favorite cereal (the store brand version, of course). But the real prize was the adventure of the hunt itself and the joy of being with people we love.

Valentine's Day as a holiday is kind of awful. It originated in ancient Rome as a Pagan ceremony in which women were slapped with goat carcasses in order to increase fertility (seriously, Google it). Valentine's Day in modern times is a source of anxiety for people of all walks of life, whether it is in the form of loneliness and FOMO (that's Fear of Missing Out for all of you Gen X-ers and Boomers) for single folks or pressure and unfulfilled expectations for those in a relationship. The holiday is a boon for jewelry stores, florists and restaurants, but a bane for our pocketbooks and probably our happiness.

This year, I propose we celebrate Valentine's Day like the group of people that actually enjoys the holiday—children. Forget the romance and expense and expectations. Bring on the laughter and silliness and time spent with the people you care about.

Sure, jewelry and flowers are nice, but you don't need much money to create memories you will cherish for life.

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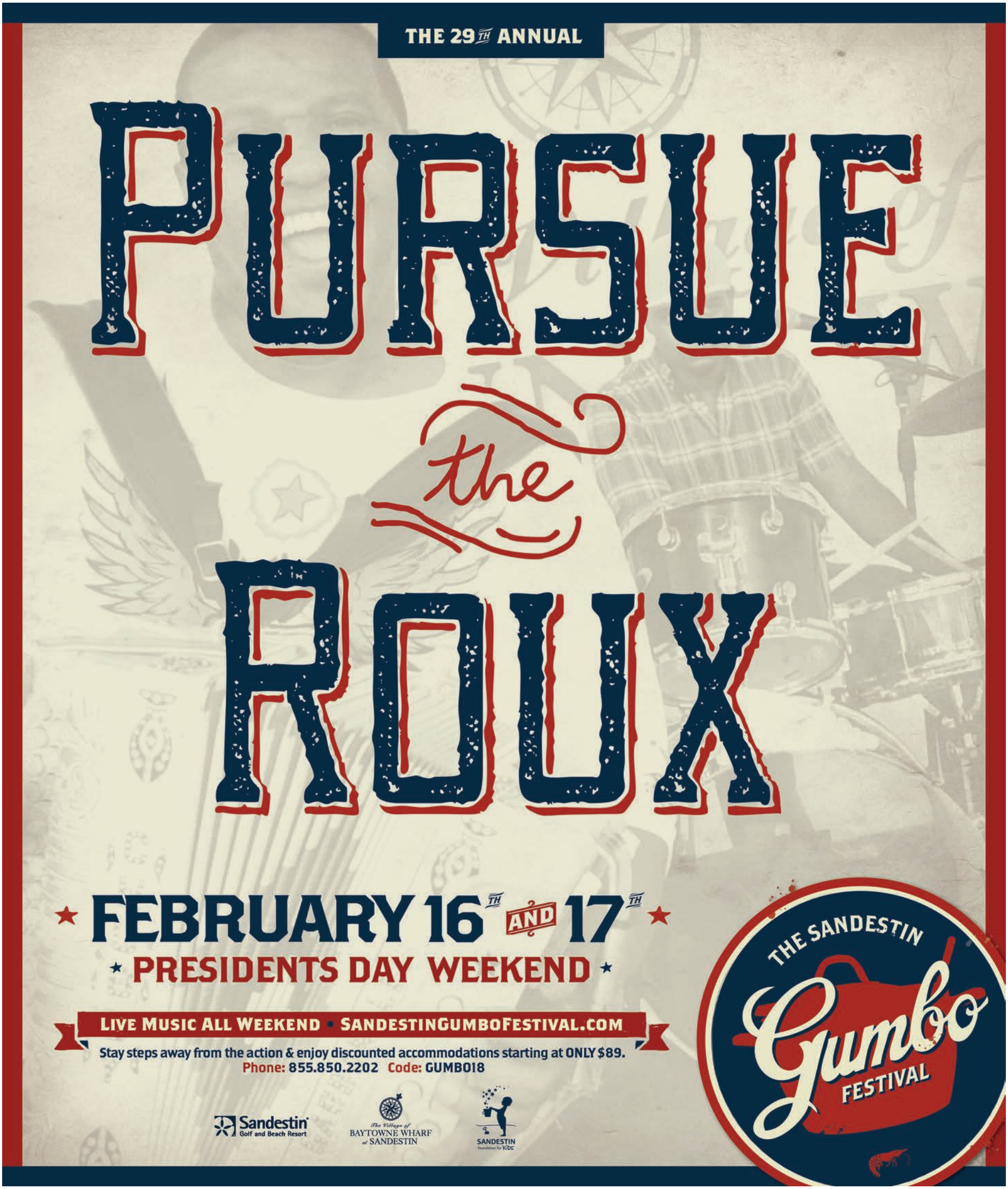
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FEB 9 | 6PM

Wear your Mardi Gras best for drink specials at every stop!
$10 pass benefits a local charity.

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FEB 10 | 2PM

Beads, dazzling floats, street performers & live music!
Does your Krewe want to be IN the parade?
Email RMagee@HarborWalkVillage.com for more info.

FAT TUESDAY & MARDI PAWS
FEB 13 | 5PM

Revel in free red beans & rice and enter your festively dressed pup in the Mardi PAWS Costume Contest held at 6pm.
Prizes awarded! $10 entry or donation of a bag of dry dog food.

CHILI COOKOFF
FEB 24 | 12PM

Presented by the Emerald Coast Parrotheads. Competitors will bring the heat to the Harbor and you get to taste their best chili recipes!

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